# The Chicago Daily Tribune.

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Cut Flowers, Bouquets, etc.
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SCALES.

FAIRBANKS' STANDARD SCALES
OF ALL SIZES.
FAIRBANKS, MORSE & CO
67 WEST WASHINGTON-ST.

MEETINGS.
Masonic.
Annual Communication of Apollo Lodge No. 403 A. F. & A. M., for election of officers and payment of dues, this (Thursday) evening, at 7 o'clock.
GEORGE HOWDEN, W. M.
MYRON GREENE, Secretary.


## FOREIGN.

### Death of the King of the Sandwich Islands.

### No Successor Named, and a Revolution Anticipated.

### The Slavery Question in the Spanish Cortes.

### A News Budget from the Antipodes.

NEW ZEALAND.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—The steamship Nebraska brings New Zealand dates to Nov. 27. The twenty-eighth session of the Provincial Council opened on the 19th inst. The Governor has commenced the department reforms which, says the *Independent*, "if likely to create a certain degree of dissatisfaction amongst the few, will be calculated to satisfy the House and country." The department under the charge of a native Minister is the first to feel the new besom. The office of Inspector of Volunteers and Militia has been done away with.

The intertribal disputes assuming a rather threatening character having occurred at Waipu, on the east coast, the resident magistrate writes that both parties are armed, and refuse to allow each other to cross the river.

The Nebraska "dressed ship," at Dunedin, and fired a salute in honor of Grant's re-election, which was replied to by the Naval Brigade.

The return of the customs revenue for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1872, published in the *Gazette*, shows a total of £208,277, against £185,722 for the corresponding quarter of last year.

The ship City of Newcastle was wrecked off Cook's Inlet, and sixteen persons lost, on the night of the 19th of November.

The Pacific Fire Insurance building, in Fort street, was found to be in flames, which resulted in the total destruction of several stores adjoining, and the magnificent pile of buildings known as the post and telegraphic offices, and the Provincial Government offices.

Important discoveries of coal have been made at Gipp's Land.

The Governor, Viscount Canterbury, goes home in February.

The bill for mining on private property is not likely to pass this session.

The Sydney Assembly rejected the narrow-gauge railroad.

The estimated expenditure for the year shows an increase of £176,000.

At Adelaide, £16,000 in bonds will be issued in the Colonies for the construction of the South-eastern Railroad line.

The Fiji settlers and planters are very much dissatisfied at the composition of the present Government. A meeting of planters was held at Evuka, on the 6th inst., at which very strong language was spoken against the Government.

The Nebraska inaugurates a direct line between Auckland and San Francisco.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Dec. 25.—The bill, providing for the emancipation of the slaves in Porto Rico, was read in the lower branch of the Courts, yesterday. All slaves are to be free within four months after the promulgation of the passage of the bill. Slave-owners are to be indemnified for their property.

Many of the Deputies expressed their approval of the bill by cheers after its reading.

The Government again announced that reforms in Cuba were postponed in consequence of the insurrection in that island.

MADRID, Dec. 25.—The Port Rico Emancipation bill provides that slave owners shall receive 80 per cent indemnity, of which the State shall pay 40 per cent and the Colony, the remainder.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—King Kamehameha V. died at Honolulu, Dec. 11. He is the last of the royal line, and named no successor. There is an interregnum, during which the people are sovereign. The Legislative Assembly meets on Jan. 8, when it is expected it will nominate the successor of the late King.

The *Honolulu Gazette* favors a popular movement for the purpose of securing a free Constitution, and a revolution is expected. At the latest dates, the country was quiet.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 25.—The Czarovitch is ill with Typhus fever.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 25.—It was officially announced to-day, that the Czarovitch has been ill since the 19th of November, and his malady becoming serious on the 19th of December, it was pronounced a case of typhus fever, accompanied with an affection of the abdomen, which the physicians consider of a grave character. The bulletin issued this morning says his Imperial Highness passed a sleepless yet tranquil night. The fever has not abated, but his condition continues about the same.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The Prefect of Parr has issued an order forbidding Spaniards to sojourn in the department of the Basses Pyrenees without written permission.

## THE WEATHER.

**War Department Prognostications—Reports from Various Points.**

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, DIVISION OF TELEGRAMS AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Probabilities—For New England, easterly winds, cloudy weather, and snow. For the Middle States, fresh to brisk southeasterly to northeasterly winds, cloudy weather, and snow. For the South Atlantic States, northeasterly to northwesterly winds, cloudy weather, and rain. From Tennessee to Ohio and lower Michigan, cloudy weather and snow to-night. For Missouri and the Northwest, winds backing to northerly and northwesterly winds, with falling temperature and clearing, but partly cloudy weather, and extending eastward to Michigan and Illinois, and possibly Indiana, and the western portions of Kentucky and Tennessee.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25.—The thermometer commenced 3° below zero at daylight and ran up to 20° above at dark, with a slight snow-fall.

BATH, Me., Dec. 25.—The mercury in this city, this morning, indicated 28 degrees below zero, which was the coldest, with perhaps one or two exceptions, since 1837.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 25.—The weather here to-day has been intensely cold, the thermometer, at an early hour this morning, indicating 30 degrees below zero.

LEBANON, N. H., Dec. 25.—The mercury here to-day was 30 degrees below zero.

LANCASTER, N. H., Dec. 25.—The past night has been the coldest ever known here. At half-past 8 p. m. the spirit thermometer indicated 25 degrees below zero, and at 7 this morning 45 to 50 degrees below zero, according to location. Numerous cases of frozen limbs are reported.

**Jimmy Kennovan's Thirty-one-Hour Dance.**

*From the Vallejo (Cal.) Chronicle, Dec. 14.*

Jimmy Kennovan finished his thirty-one-hour dance at 3 o'clock last night. A larger number was in attendance at the hall than the evening previous. Jimmy kept in locomotion throughout the whole time announced, only taking a brief recess at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon for the purpose of bathing his feet and having a brief respite. At this time he showed few symptoms of over-exertion. His feet were slightly swollen, but he otherwise seemed as fresh as when he commenced. His extremities were bathed by his trainer with brandy, which proved a most excellent specific for the purpose for which it was used. Before the expiration of the ten minutes allotted Jimmy began to feel sleepy, and was glad to begin his exercise as soon as possible. At frequent intervals, he drank wine with raw eggs as an invigorant. His appetite was also keen during the trial, and he ate heartily. When the last twenty minutes before the close of the thirty-one hours had come, Jimmy, who, it seemed, had husbanded his strength for the close, "let himself out." He seemed as fresh and more vigorous than when he first began, and he danced the last three dances with an energy and heartiness which would have put to blush a youth of sixteen. Jimmy, in fact, did not stop when 2 o'clock struck, but kept on going for nearly ten minutes longer. When the feat was finished he departed with his trainer for his lodging where he was placed in a hot bath, rubbed down and put to bed. The spectators during the evening enjoyed themselves in singing and dancing, and passed the time very agreeably. Jimmy slept calmly and peacefully until 7 o'clock this morning, when he arose and dressed himself. He made his appearance on the street this forenoon, apparently as fresh as ever. For a person 60 years of age, the feat which he has performed is something truly remarkable.

## FIRES.

### Further Details of the Conflagration on Centre Street, New York.

### Seven Persons Missing---Supposed to have Perished in the Flames.

### Slight Fires in Two New York Theatres.

*Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.*

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The great fire on Centre street last evening, by which the Caxton Building and other structures were totally destroyed, proves to have been more disastrous than first reported. It is now certain that at least seven lives were lost in the flames. Notwithstanding that the buildings burned are a mass of ruins, the debris continued to blaze all day, and it was found necessary to keep one engine playing on the ruins continually. In addition to the seven lives lost, five other persons were injured by falling walls or in making their escape.

Relatives and friends called at Franklin street to-day and anxiously inquired for the following persons, who were known to have been in the building at the time the fire was discovered. They have not been seen since, and but little doubt exists that their charred and probably unrecognizable remains now lie beneath the ruins. Jane Stewart, 77 Charleton street; Bridget McGrath, 331 First avenue; Margaret Donohue and Mary Donohue, sisters, 123 East Tenth street; Margaret Bell and Charlotte Bell, sisters, 69 Avenue A; James Bevins, aged 12, 164 Broome street.

The casualties reported by the police are as follows: James Pike, laborer, contusions of body and laceration of left arm; Benjamin Bolou, of 122 First street, bilious attack; contusions of the leg and abdomen; Emma Francis, dislocated ankle; Mary Hopkins, lacerated wound of the face; Captain T. J. Kennedy, of the police, contusions of the leg.

The cause of the fire was undoubtedly the upsetting or careless handling of a can of benzine used in the printing office of Dun, Barlow & Co., to clean the cylinders of the presses. The flame spread with frightful rapidity through the elevator, which ran parallel with a wooden stairway, cutting off escape. Many stories are told of the escape of the girls down the rear and almost useless fire-escape, and many individual deeds of courage are recorded. As soon as the fire is extinguished search for the bodies will be commenced. The total loss by this fire is now estimated at $250,000; insurance, $194,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The Clifford Hotel, corner of Thirty-first street and Broadway, was this afternoon slightly damaged by fire.

The following persons employed in the building Nos. 81, 83, and 85 Centre street, burned last evening, are reported missing by their friends: Jemes Stewart, Bridget McGrath, Margaret and Mary Donohue, Margaret and Mary Bell, and James Brown. The thick coat of ice on the ruins prevents the police and firemen from searching for them.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A fire broke out this evening in the ticket office of the Bowery theatre. Damage light.

About 9 o'clock this evening the scenery of the Canterbury theatre caught fire. There was great excitement among the audience, who rushed to the street. No lives lost.

## A HARD LAW.

### A Philadelphia Editor Convicted of Libel, After His Paper had Made an Ample Apology.

*Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.*

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Philadelphia newspaper men are excited over the conviction for libel of Cathcart Taylor, city editor of *Forney's Press*. Taylor printed an article stating that David H. Lane, a local politician in Philadelphia, had been leagued with a certain ring of distillers. The *Press* published a most ample and labored apology, but Lane brought the suit, and a Philadelphia jury found a verdict of guilty, the law being, in that virtuous State of Cameron and Billy McMullin, that "the greater the truth, the greater the libel." The unhappily candid Mr. Taylor is awaiting sentence, to be sent where Yerkes and Mara are supplied with pardons, and newspaper people serve out full terms for telling too strong an article of truth about anything. Colonel Forney says editorially that this suit is a blow aimed by the politicians at the freedom of the press. He also insists that he should have been arraigned, and not his employe.

## CHRISTMAS.

**How the Day Was Observed Throughout the Country.**

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25.—Scarcely any fire-crackers were burned for Christmas. The quiet in the city was remarkable. The business houses were nearly all closed.

**A San Francisco Undertaker's Expedient—How He Thinks to Preserve Dead Bodies.**

*From the San Francisco Alta.*

In the course of investigating the destroying elemeant that affects dead bodies, Mr. Peter Craig, undertaker, perceived that oxygen was the element that caused decomposition; it struck him that if this element could be removed from the coffin, where the body was incased, preservation would be certain. How to accomplish this at first rather puzzled Mr. Craig, but, not to be baffled by trifles, he gave the subject great consideration, and, knowing that combustion was caused by the union of the carbon of the material and the oxygen of the air, he tried the experiment of using up the oxygen in the casket by the aid of a lighted candle. He had an air-tight casket made, and placed a burning candle therein; he screwed down the lid perfectly air-tight. The candle continued to burn for eight hours, it then having consumed all the oxygen in the interior was extinguished. This proved the theory—and satisfied him that he had madean excellent discovery; but to carry his ideas out effectively, he obtained the body of a dead man from the Coroner and placed it in the coffin, with the lighted candle, as before, screwing down the lid, etc. In this case the candle burned for five hours and a half and then became extinguished, as before. To test the case, Mr. Craig had the body removed to a back room where it remained for three weeks in a perfect state of preservation. This satisfied him, beyond a doubt, that he had succeeded in discovering a new art, whereby bodies could be embalmed without the aid of chemicals. After having succeeded so well with his invention, he drew the attention of Dr. Edwin Bently to the process, and that gentleman expressed his firm belief in its success. The new process is to be fully tested to-day, with the body of Mr. Gowenhawk, who died in this city on last Tuesday, and whose body has been preserved in this manner. The body can be seen at Corinthian Hall this afternoon, where it will be brought previous to its removal to the Masonic Cemetery. It is the intention of this gentleman's relatives to have his remains taken to Scotland. This will test the process, and should it prove satisfactory, which is not doubted, Mr. Craig will have added a new process of preserving bodies to science.

## THE INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

### Sketches of the Leaders of the House.

### The Congressional and Legislative Apportionment Bills.

### List of Acts Passed by the Extra Session.

*Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.*

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 23, 1872.

The extra session of the Legislature adjourned yesterday *sine die*, the constitutional period of forty days having expired. The same body, however, will assemble in regular session on the 9th day of January, when they will sit sixty days.

Before entering upon a *resume* of the work accomplished by the session just closed, I will give the readers of THE TRIBUNE a brief sketch of a few of the leading members of the House of Representatives.

COLONEL W. E. EDWARDS,

the Speaker of the House, is one of the best and most favorably known politicians and parliamentarians in the State. He has resided in Terre Haute for a number of years, and is one of the oldest and best attorneys in the Wabash Valley, but has devoted most of his time, during the past fifteen years, to the management of the private business of Chauncey Rose, Esq., the venerable philanthropist and millionaire, who will be remembered as the largest owner, and for many years President, of the Indianapolis & Terre Haute Railroad, now known as the "Vandalia Line." Mr. Rose, like Colonel Edwards, is a bachelor, and there has long existed a strong personal attachment between them. Colonel E. has previously served two terms in the House, during one of which he was, as now, "Mr. Speaker." As a presiding officer, he has few equals, and has discharged his duties during the present session in such a manner as to win encomiums from friends and foes alike, being complimented by a unanimous vote, at the close of the recess, for the able and impartial manner in which he had discharged the duties of his position. There is little doubt that he will be re-elected Speaker at the regular session, without opposition.

THE HON. D. C. BRACKHAM

is familarly styled the "Old Wheel-Horse." He has served almost continuously in the House for the past twenty years, being addressed, during that long period, as "the gentleman from Jefferson." He was Speaker during the sessions of 1867-'68, and was for many sessions Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. B. was a candidate for Speaker of the present House, but was defeated in caucus, and, according to the etiquette which has prevailed here for a number of years, he should have been appointed to the Chairmanship of the Committee on Ways and Means; but the Speaker designated General Nathan Kimball for that position, with Mr. Branham as second. Mr. B. was also made Chairman of the Joint Committee on Public Buildings, as well as Chairman of the House Committees on the Sinking Fund and on Benevolent and Scientific institutions. He evidently was chagrined at not being placed at the head of the Committee of Ways and Means, and early evinced a desire to defeat any measure that his rival, General Kimball, manifested any interest in. This finally drove him to oppose both the Legislative and Congressional Apportionment bills, which he did, championing the Democracy on the floor, and leading the opposition. During this debate, he declared that hereafter he would be bound by no caucus, and would act as his own judgment dictated. He failed to accomplish his purpose, and, while voting against the Congressional bill, he voted for the Legislative bill. He did not care to take the responsibility of separating himself from his party.

Mr. Branham was for many years the Superintendent of the Madison & Indianapolis Railroad, but, for the past several years, has been building the Indianapolis & Vincennes and the Cairo & Vincennes Railroads, under a contract from General Burnside. Although deprived of the advantages of an early education, he is a man of strong will and decided talents, and is an effective and able public speaker.

GENERAL NATHAN KIMBALL,

the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, is the acknowledged leader of the majority of the House. He is a native of this State, is a graduate of Asbury University, at Greencastle, and a physician by profession. He was a Captain in the famous Second Indiana Regiment during the Mexican War. This regiment was commanded by Colonel W. A. Bowles, who was more recently tried for treason in this State, being one of the "Sons of Liberty Conspirators," convicted by a Military Commission, in 1864, and sentenced to death, but whose sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life by Andrew Johnson, and who was afterwards released by the Supreme Court of the United States. The Second Indiana Regiment, it will be recollected, acted badly at Buena Vista, and were reported for cowardice; but the facts afterwards proved that this disgrace was caused by the cowardice of Colonel Bowles, and that a large part of the regiment was rallied by Captain Kimball and other officers, and fought nobly to the end of that memorable engagement, with other commands. After the close of this battle, Captain K. boldly denounced Colonel Bowles for his cowardice; and for this he was arrested and tried by a court martial, of which Colonel W. A. Richardson, of Illinois, was President; he plead guilty, was released after being privately reprimanded, and was ordered on duty with his command. At the breaking out of the recent civil war, Captain Kimball was appointed Colonel of the Fourteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served through the three months' campaign, after the close of which, he was promoted to a Brigadier General. He commanded at the Battle of Winchester, and is the only Federal General who ever whipped Stonewall Jackson's command. He made a brilliant record as a General, and was wounded at Fredericksburg, from the effects of which injury he still suffers. In 1866, he was elected Treasurer of State, and re-elected in 1868, going out in 1870. He is a good public speaker, and would be quite effective if he would learn to condense his remarks into the limits usually allotted to public speakers. But, as a member of the House, he has been judicious in this respect, and his familiarity with the business of the State made him a valuable member of that body. He is a bitter partisan, and is disposed to hold the whip on all refractory members with a steady hand.

WILLIAM BAXTER AND L. C. WALKER,

the members from Wayne, are gentlemen of more talent and influence than any who have represented that county in the Legislature for a number of years. Mr. Walker is Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and, although a young man, is regarded as one of the leaders of the majority. He is a good lawyer and a fair public speaker.

William Baxter, the colleague of Mr. Walker, is, in many respects, the most remarkable member of the House. He is a Quaker, of English descent, and has never taken an active part in politics until within the past few months. He was for many years the personal, political, and confidential friend of George W. Julian, and was devoted to that gentleman's interests up to the Cincinnati Convention, when they parted company. Mr. Baxter had become a candidate for the Legislature, ostensibly to represent the Temperance interests, but really to assist in sending Mr. Julian to the United States Senate. Mr. Baxter, however, charged Mr. Julian with having deceived him, and attacked Mr. Julian in a public speech, in which he produced certain private letters of Mr. Julian to both himself and another candidate, in which he denied being for or having favored the other's nomination. After this, the Republican State Central Committee put Mr. Baxter up for a speech at every place visited by Mr. Julian, and, as a consequence of a personal quarrel. Mr. Baxter is a plain, common-sense man, with a fine education; and dresses in full Quaker style,—standing coat-collar, and broad-brimmed hat. This, added to the fact that he has a strong English accent, and uses plain language, added to the novelty and interest of his address,—all of which contributed to secure him a large audience whenever he was advertised for a speech. Before the canvass closed, no man in the State was better known than "Mr. Baxter, the Richmond Quaker." Mr. B. was an honest and conscientious member, and never failed to command the attention of the House when he spoke, and few members exercised a larger influence for good.

OTHER REPUBLICAN MEMBERS.

Among others worthy of special mention as being among the most promising young members, and who have faithfully discharged their duties to the State and their constituents, are: A. C. Mellett, of Delaware; J. O. Hardesty, of Madison; E. S. Lenfesty, of Grant; John F. Hedrick, of Henry; R. W. Cobb, of Huntington; J. D. Thayer, of Kosciusco; E. F. Johnson, of Marion; W. W. Butterworth, of St. Joseph; and C. R. Cowgill, of Wabash.

THE DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS

of the House labor under the same disadvantage as do their party friends in the Senate, viz.: the want of a competent and experienced leader. They have no member capable of, defending any measure, who was ever before a member of either branch of the Legislature. Their best and acknowledged leader was

M. C. GARTHOUSE,

a prominent attorney in Knox County. He is a fine specimen of physical manhood, a tolerably clear-headed lawyer, and a fluent speaker, but lacked the experience necessary to make him formidable as the leader of a minority. He is second on the Judiciary Committee, as well as a member of the Committee on Benevolent and Scientific Institutions.

T. W. WOOLEN,

of Johnson County, is a leading attorney in that county, and is a gentleman of fair legal attainments, and a good speaker, but too slow for a leader. He is a member of the Committees on Judiciary, Education, and Fees and Salaries.

MATTHEW L. BRETT

is the best known member on the Democratic side of the House, from the fact that he has served one term as Treasurer of the State, and was an active friend and adviser of the majority in what was familiarly known as the treasonable Legislature of 1862-3, which did so much to embarrass the Government during the darkest period of the war. He is a quiet and confidential sort of person, and was generally designated as "Aminadab Sleek" by the Republicans and their papers. Since the War, Mr. Brett returned to Washington County, where he became cashier of a National Bank, and still resides there. He is a man of good business habits, but an indifferent speaker. He was elected to this present position by barely eight majority.

JAMES H. MILLARD

is the most youthful and best educated member of the House. He is the only remaining member of the family of the late Governor James D. Millard, who was worshipped by his party from 1854 up to the date of his death, in 1859. Young Millard represents Floyd County, is a fair lawyer, and gives promise of a brilliant future; but he is not much inclined to allow his duties to interfere with his having a good time. He will outgrow that, however.

C. L. OTT,

of Hancock, is a young attorney of more than unsual promise, and has already come to be regarded as one of the most useful members of the body. He is a fine speaker, and has devoted himself to the business of State.

There are a number of others on the Democratic side worthy of special mention, but my space will not permit.

THE APPORTIONMENT BILLS.

The Constitution requires the State to be apportioned every six years, and the present was the one in which the apportionments for Congressional, as well as Legislative purposes, was required to be made. Of course, the party in the majority always avails itself of all the advantage they can get in such cases; and this has proven no exception to the rule. Taking the vote for Governor in 1868 as a basis, the Congressional Apportionment bill only gives the Democrats four districts, with one doubtful, and the Republicans nine certain, with one doubtful. The following is

THE CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT BILL.

*First District*—Posey, Vanderburg, Gibson, Warrick, Spencer, and Perry.

*Second District*—Sullivan, Knox, Green, Daviess, Martin, Dubois, Orange, Crawford, and Pike.

*Third District*—Brown, Bartholomew, Jackson, Washington, Harrison, Floyd, and Clark.

*Fourth District*—Rush, Decatur, Jennings, Ripley, Scott, Jefferson, Switzerland, and Ohio.

*Fifth District*—Dearborn, Franklin, Fayette, Union, Wayne, and Randolph.

*Sixth District*—Grant, Madison, Delaware, Henry, Hancock, Shelby, and Johnson.

*Seventh District*—Marion, Hendricks, Morgan, and Putnam.

*Eighth District*—Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Clay, Owen, Monroe, and Lawrence.

*Ninth District*—Marion, Benton, Tippecanoe, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, and Boone.

*Tenth District*—Lake, Newton, Porter, Jasper, White, La Porte, St. Joseph, and Starke.

*Eleventh District*—Fulton, Miami, Cass, Carroll, Howard, Tipton, and Hamilton.

*Twelfth District*—Allen, Huntington, Whitley, Allen, Adams, Wells, Blackford, and Jay.

*Thirteenth District*—Steuben, La Grange, Noble, Elkhart, Kosciusko, Wabash, and Huntington.

LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT.

The following is the apportionment for Senators and Representatives. A bitter fight was made by the minority to defeat it, and every effort was resorted to to induce the Democrats to bolt; but the statute imposes a fine of $1,000, and imprisonment in the Marion County Jail until the same is paid, for such an offence, and most of the members did not care to run the risk. It was not to resign and break the quorum, for fear Governor Baker would not issue writs of election to fill the vacancies before the regular session, at which time the votes for Mr. Hendricks, Governor elect, are to be counted, and that gentleman inaugurated. If there was no quorum, how could that be done? So, there was nothing for them to do but to sit in their seats and let the bill pass; which increases the Republican majority in both houses from twelve to thirty-four on joint ballot. The following counties elect Senators under the new bill:

[illegible] and Allen, one, D.; Bartholomew and Perry, one, D.; Sullivan and Knox, one, D.; Daviess and Greene, one, D.; Martin, Orange, and Dubois, one, D.; Crawford and Harrison, one, D.; Floyd and Clark, one, D.; Washington and Jackson, one, D.; Lawrence and Monroe, one, R.; Brown and Bartholomew, one, D.; Scott, Jennings, and Decatur, one, R.; Jefferson, one, R.; Switzerland, Ohio, and Ripley, one, R.; Decatur and Rush, one, R.; Dearborn and Ripley, one, R.; Ohen and Clay, one, D.; Shelby and Johnson, one, D.; Putnam and Hendricks, one, R.; Parke and Vermillion, one, R.; Fountain and Warren, one, R.; Tippecanoe, one, R.; Benton, Newton, Jasper, and White, one, R.; Lake and Porter, one, R.; Laporte, one, D.; St. Joseph and Starke, one, R.; Marshall, Fulton, and Pulaski, one, D.; Kosciusko and Whitley, one, D.; Elkhart, one, R.; Noble and Lagrange, one, R.; Steuben and DeKalb, one, R.; Allen, one, D.; Allen, Adams, and Wells, one, D.; Huntington and Wabash, one, R.; Grant, Richland and Jay, one, D.; Miami and Howard, one, R.; Cass and Carroll, one, D.; Hamilton and Tipton, one, R.; Boone and Clinton, one, D.; Madison and Delaware, one, R.; Randolph, one, R.; Wayne, one, R.; Henry and Hancock, one, R.; Fayette, Union, and Rush, one, R.; Marion, two, R.; Marion and Morgan, one, R.; Dearborn and Franklin, one, D.; Montgomery, one, D.

The Representatives are apportioned as follows:

Gibson, 1, D.; Vanderburg, two, R.; Warrick, one, D.; Pike, one, D.; Spencer, one, R.; Perry, one, D.; Sullivan, one, D.; Knox, one, D.; Daviess, one, D.; Green, one, D.; Martin and Dubois, one, D.; Crawford and Orange, one, D.; Harrison, one, D.; Floyd, one D.; Clark, one, D.; Washington, one, D.; Jackson, one, D.; Lawrence, one, R.; Monroe, one, R.; Brown and Bartholomew, one, D.; Jennings, one, R.; Scott, Jennings, and Jefferson, one R.; Jefferson, one, R.; Ripley, Decatur, and Rush, one, R.; Ripley, one, R.; Switzerland and Ohio, one, R.; Decatur, one, R.; Rush, one, R.; Vigo, two, R.; Owen, one, R.; Clay, one, R.; Morgan, one, R.; Johnson, one, D.; Putnam, one, D.; Hendricks, one, R.; Putnam and Hendricks, one, R.; Parke, one, R.; Vermillion, one, R.; Parke and Montgomery, one, R.; Warren, one, R.; Fountain, one, D.; Tippecanoe, two, R.; Benton and Newton, one, R.; Jasper and White, one, R.; Lake, one, R.; Porter, one, R.; Laporte, one, D.; St. Joseph, one; Marshall and St. Joseph, one, D.; Kosciusko and Fulton, one, R.; Fulton, Pulaski and Starke, one, D.; Kosciusko, one, R.; Whitley, one, D.; Elkhart, one, R.; Noble, one, R.; Lagrange, one, R.; Steuben, one, R.; DeKalb, one, R.; Allen, two, D.; Adams and Wells, one, D.; Huntington, one, R.; Wabash, one, R.; Huntington and Wabash, one, R.; Grant and Blackford, one, R.; Grant, one, R.; Miami, one, R.; Howard, one, R.; Cass, one, D.; Carroll, one, D.; Hamilton, one, R.; Hamilton and Tipton, one, R.; Clinton, one, D.; Boone, one, R.; Montgomery, one, D.; Madison, one, D.; Delaware, one, R.; Jay and Madison, one, R.; Randolph, one, R.; Wayne, two, R.; Henry, one, R.; Hancock, one, D.; Henry and Madison, one, R.; Fayette and Union, one, R.; Marion, four, R.; Marion and Morgan, one, R.; Shelby, one, D.; Decatur, one, D.; Franklin, one, D.; Noble and Elkhart, one, R.; Marshall, one, D.; Miami and Howard, one, R.

THE WORK OF THE SESSION.

The following is a list of the bills of general importance passed by both Houses of the Legislature. There were numerous acts of a local nature, and in changing the time for holding Courts in various counties, which are not contained in this list:

BILLS ORIGINATING IN THE SENATE.

No. 1—An act to authorize and encourage the construction of levees, dykes, and drains, and for the reclamation of wet lands.

No. 2—An act allowing the organization and perpetuity of voluntary associations, and repealing the act of Feb. 25, 1852.

No. 3—To require railroad companies to issue stock paid for by taxes voted for in construction of same, to tax-payers or their assigns.

No. 39—Supplemental to an act approved Feb. 22, 1870, appointing commissioners to sell certain real estate therein named. To provide a residence for the Governor, and to make him an allowance in lieu thereof until the same is provided.

No. 45—To provide for the permanent inclosure of the Tippecanoe battle ground.

No. 47—Amendatory of Section 1 of an act entitled an act to organize a Supreme Court and prescribing certain duties of the Judges thereof.

No. 49—Dividing the State into Supreme Court districts.

No. 68—Ceding to the United States certain lands in Indianapolis, and jurisdiction over the same, for the erection thereon of public buildings.

No. 85—To protect the Wabash & Erie Canal, and the tolls and revenues thereof from sequestration.

No. 87—Granting consent of the State to purchase by the United States of certain lands in Evansville for public buildings.

No. 124—Defining salary of Governor and manner of paying the same.

No. 141—In relation to the funded debt of the State therein named.

No. 146—Fixing the number of Senators and Representatives in the General Assembly of the State, and apportioning the same among the several counties.

No. 84—A bill to divide the State into Congressional districts.

BILLS ORIGINATING IN THE HOUSE.

No. 33—An act appropriating $15,000 to defray the expenses of the special session of 1872 of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

No. 37—An act authorizing an appropriation of money out of the State Treasury for the use of Indiana University, located at Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, in paying debts created by borrowing money for the expenses in the years 1870 and 1871.

No. 22—An act to amend the first section and the title of an act approved, March 4, 1865, entitled "An act providing for the completion of unfinished business of any session of the Legislature by the next succeeding session of the same General Assembly."

No. 35—An act authorizing cities and towns incorporated under the authority of the State of Indiana, to make a survey and plat thereof, when there is no survey and plat already sufficiently laid out and adopted.

No. 143—An act defining certain felonies and prescribing punishment therefor, compelling testimony of witnesses before grand juries, and others against themselves, declaring contracts with respect thereto void, and repealing all laws in conflict with this act.

No. 207—An act providing for the payment to Township Trustees of all moneys which have been collected from townships for either general or specific purposes, except such money as has been collected for State or county revenue, and prescribing punishment for offences against the same.

No. 237—An act to amend an act entitled "An act districting the State of Judicial circuits." Approved June 17, 1859.

No. 70—An act to enable counties, townships, and cities bordering on the State line to aid in the construction of railroads coming into such counties, townships, or cities, or to the State line.

No. 163—An act to provide for a uniform assessment of property and the collection of taxes.

No. 50—An act touching public squares in towns laid out and platted and recorded with public grounds not specially designated, and the matters therewith connected.

No. 119—An act in relation to the organization of the two Houses of the Legislature, and prescribing certain duties of officers.

No. 56—An act supplemental to an act to authorize aid to the construction of railroads by counties and townships taking stock therein, and making donations to railroads. Approved May 13, 1869.

No. 59—An act to amend an act entitled an act to establish a House of Refuge for the correction and reformation of female offenders, approved March, 1867, and repealing Section 11 of that act.

No. 96—An act touching public squares in towns laid out and platted and recorded, not specifically designated, and the matters connected therewith.

No. 73—An act fixing the *per diem* and mileage of the General Assembly, and providing that they shall purchase and furnish their own stationery.

No. 98—An act to make certain specific appropriations therein mentioned.

## TRAGIC AFFRAY.

### A Neighborly Misunderstanding Results in Deliberate Murder—Arrest of the Assassin.

*Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.*

INGETON, C., Dec. 25.—On Monday morning, a murderous affray occurred on Ice Creek, about 15 miles from here, and 3 from Marion. For some time there has been a misunderstanding between the families of Henry Wilson and his neighbors, the Broughtons, which culminated on Sunday in a difficulty, in which some of the Broughtons used violence toward Wilson's children. Wilson, early on Monday morning, started to the Justice of the Peace, intending to procure a warrant for their arrest. Passing Broughton's house he was called back by them, and, entering the yard, soon became engaged in a bitter quarrel. William Broughton swore he would shoot Wilson, and, entering the house and get

## NEW ORLEANS.

### Gayarre, the Historian of Louisiana.

### The American Mediterranean---Components of the Crescent City.

### The Spanish Domination — No More Filibustering—Exporting Everything and Importing Nothing.

### Mrs. Gaines and Her Lawsuits—Topography of New Orleans.

*From Our Own Correspondent.*

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14, 1872.

Amongst the strong and strange old personal characters of New Orleans is one, nearly 85 years of age, still moving about the business-streets, and endeavoring to do his part in the changed condition of his native city.

GAYARRE.

This is Charles E. Arthur Gayarre, the historian of Louisiana, a man of mixed Spanish and French descent, who has been on the controversial side of almost every question, and who took up pamphleteering against that original carpet-bagger of them all, Edward Livingston, as early as 1825, when he was a boy. After studying law in the North, he went to the Legislature in time to congratulate France, in an address on behalf of the Creoles, upon the revolution of 1830 at Paris. Elected to the Senate of the United States in 1835, he added another quaint page to his career by declining the place on account of poor health, and then, for several years, he was Secretary of State of Louisiana, organizer of the State finances and library, and general author. In 1858 he plotted parties, only to find the usual ingratitude of Republics in being beaten, and, after mauling his fellow-citizens for their apathy and corruption, he appeared at the head of a body of Roman Catholics, in 1855, applying for admission to the National Know-Nothing Convention, where, of course, he was excluded. He favored Secession, and is now comparatively obscure; but the recollection of his intense and peculiar face suggests that we accompany him in memory, at this extraordinary time in Louisiana affairs, to see how the State raised itself and its society above the delta of the Mississippi.

THE GULF COUNTRY.

As the traveller proceeds toward the Gulf from Washington City, he observes little change of weather or foliage until he has got quite within the line of the climate of Mobile. After leaving Montgomery, Ala., where the bluff-lands are high and hilly, he passes by gentle grades to a country of wide rivers and lagoons, with swamps of brilliant hues growing rankly between them, and in the hazy dawn he sees arks and rafts steered, seemingly, in the central air, so much higher is the water than the soil, and so unusual and obscuring the sight. Then he feels a queer, sleeping butterfly at his pulse, saying, "Come flutter or come dream!" and he knows that it is the true South he has reached at last.

THE AMERICAN MEDITERRANEAN.

From Pensacola to Mobile is 50 or 60 miles in a straight line; from Mobile to New Orleans is 140 by rail. In short, it is but 250 miles by rail from Pensacola past Mobile to New Orleans by present lines of communication, and should be no more than 200, if the Gulf-side line was in operation.

These three settlements, and the islands and Gulf-shores between them, constitute all the vital history of the Latin races as it affects Southern metropolitan politics. The contest between Spain, Great Britain, and the Carolinas, on the Gulf-coast, is the most interesting resemblance to the contest between the Dutch, Swedes, Canadians, and English Colonists between the Capes of the Delaware and New England. New York, founded by the Dutch is an historical parallel to New Orleans, founded by the French nearly a century afterward. Both cities attest the superb vitality of the Latin race in the world, next to Boston. Its mind and fog were dear to her; its beef and beer were nectar and ambrosia after the continental slops and messes; its steady-going, respectable citizens beautiful in her eyes; and the words "home" and "comfort" were not an idle mockery here. Therefore the old lady joyfully smiled in smoky air, gazed with tenderness upon the grimy houses, and cast herself, metaphorically speaking, into the arms of a stout, ruddy-faced porter, as if at last she had found a man and a brother.

Nobly did the burly Britain repay her confidence and earn the shilling, which in that age was as high as one possible. He bore them to the station, got tickets, checked luggage, put the ladies in a first-class compartment, gave them all necessary directions about the hotel they were after, and when the bell rang touched his cap with a smile upon his clear, red face which caused Lavinia to add a sixpence to the shilling she gave him with a mental blessing.

"This is truly a decent country. See how well one is cared for, how civil everybody is, how honest, how manly!" began Livy, as she mounted her hobby, and prepared for a canter over the prejudices of her friend; for Amanda detested England because she knew nothing of it.

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A RIDE

in the Police Commissioners' steamboat by Mr. Young, clerk of Mayor Flanders. The city itself is no great sight from the river; but it was told that, during the Union-season, about 50 steamships plied between New Orleans and European ports. On the farther side of the river, a thousand foundry, several marine railways, and the shimneys and sheds of some sugar-houses, indicate "Algiers." There two objects which are bound New Orleans on the water-side are a tall grain elevator on the west, and the barracks on the east.

AT THE BARRACKS

I found Captain Smith, one of thirty-four Smiths who are officers of the Regular Army. The commandant was also a Smith, from Maine, and a very well-gathered-up and prudent man. I could see by feeling them that the power of the United States, to see about 300 men maintaining this post in the face of a turbulent and mighty populace. The Sergeant, who seemed to be the most efficient non-commissioned officer, was a Hebrew. The engines of death were very effective, however, in the shape of a tremendous batteries of Gatling guns which can fire like a regiment of men discharging grape-shot. Nothing has been so much abused with so little reason as

THE REGULAR ARMY

of the United States. It contains the best disciplined material in the country, gets no prize-money, and is reduced every time we have nothing else to do. Last year it cost $25,554,000, or just about as much as the Post Office expenditures. It cost less than to pay pensions in the same space of time. There are mere claims now before Congress which demand more money than this, as for example, the refunding of the cotton tax, building the Georgia Ship Canal, etc.

GAYE.

### Old New York—How May-Day Poles were Abolished.

The Director General and the Councilors of New Netherlands to all persons who shall hear, see, or read these presents, greeting:

WHEREAS, Experience has shown and taught us that on New Year days and on May days, from the firing of guns and planting May poles, and drunken debauches, there have resulted unnecessary waste of powder, much drunkenness, and other insolent practices, together with other lamentable accidents and injuries that generally arise therefrom. Therefore, in order to prevent these, it is hereby expressly ordered by the Director General and the Councilors that from this time forth, within this Province of New Netherland, on the New Year and May days, there shall be no firing nor may poles planted; nor shall there be on the occasion any wines, brandywines or beer dealt out; and in order to prevent all such accidents and injuries, there shall be a fine of twelve guilders for the first offence, twenty-four guilders for the second offence, and ordinary correction for the third offence; the one-third for the officers, one-third for the poor, and the remaining one-third for the prosecutor. We do hereby likewise command all the loblers-coerls in this province to proclaim these presents in all their public places, and to affix them there, and promptly to execute them.

Done in the Fort Amsterdam, in New Netherland, this 1st day of December, Anno 1647.

Signed by order of their High Mightinesse, the Director General and the Councilors of New Netherland.

C. V. BUTTER, Secretary.

## WARM FEET.

### And How to Keep Them So.

A correspondent of the *American Agriculturist* furnishes that paper with the following remarks on warm feet, which remarks are admirably calculated for our latitude:

To go with cold feet is to undermine the constitution, and this half the women and the girls are doing. They have a habit of cold feet, and an accompanying habit of ill-health; think home-knit woollen stockings are not very fashionable. Once, no country girl was reckoned fit to be married until she had knit her pillow-case full of stockings, but it is not so now. Indeed, the legend that this hand-knitting is done now than formerly, but I hope we shall not give up warm woollen stockings for winter use until we can replace them with something better. Merino, or the common "boughten" white wool stockings, are rather thin; but some of us supplement them with an additional pair of cotton stockings, wearing the cotton or the woollen next to the feet. My individuals prefer. Cold feet are often caused, at least in part, by too tight elastic, or bands at the tops of the stockings, or by tight shoes, or shoes tight in the ankles. These interfere with the circulation of the blood, and there cannot be a comfortable degree of warmth without a good circulation and aeration of the blood. My last lesson in this matter came from baby's experience last September. Suddenly she contracted a habit of having cold feet, and when I warmed them the skin seemed hard and inactive, suggesting the need of a bath, when a bath did not seem necessary except for the feet. At length it occurred to me that her "ankle-ties" had been too loose, and just before we came home from our visit a young lady cousin had set the buttons back further, to make the little slipper stay on better. Ever since that change the slipper-straps had been too tight around her ankles, especially after I put on woollen stockings. I changed the buttons again, and her feet no longer got cold, except in consequence of the actual rigors of the climate. Some well-informed persons object to Congress gaiters, the elastics are usually so firm and close about the ankle. Only very loose garters are allowable, and these may not be necessary when the stockings are worn over short under-drawers. Garters in the shape of straps buttoning to both vests and stockings are most sensible for women as well as children.

Many women are obliged to work in kitchens where the floors in winter are always cold. It helps matters to have a carpet down, but the kitchen carpet is objectionable on the score of cleanliness, especially where there are many children. A few good rugs are better. These can be shaken often, and will afford the kitchen occupants warm places to stand or sit at their work. There are some very cold days when I wear my Arctic overshoes all day, and the children wear their rubbers. The floors of our houses are many degrees colder than the air about our heads.

One thing too little thought of in this connection is absolutely essential to healthy warmth of body,—that is, pure air. Men who work in the open air some way have a great advantage over housekeepers. Their blood gets oxygenated, and so purified (as far as such a degree of air can do it) and prepared to warm and nourish the body, of which the blood is the constant upbuilder. Everybody, male and female, old and young, ought to get out of doors some every day, and breathe freely with the mouth.

The habit of sleeping in ill-ventilated rooms should be purified each day.

Keep brick or soapstones in the oven, to be wrapped up and put under your feet when you are obliged to sit for some time at a distance from the fire, especially if you are writing or studying.

## LONDON.

*From Miss Alcott's New Book.*

"From this moment I cease to be the Commander-in-Chief. Livy adores England, can speak the language, understand the money, and knows all about London; so she shall be leader, and I will repose after my long labor." With this remark, Amanda retired from office, covered with glory, and her mates voted to erect a statue in her honor as a token of their undying gratitude.

Lavinia took the lead from the moment they landed at St. Catherine's wharf, and, though somewhat demoralized by a rough passage of eighteen hours from Antwerp, was equal to the occasion. She did love England, and thought London the most delightful city in the world, next to Boston. Its mind and fog were dear to her; its beef and beer were nectar and ambrosia after the continental slops and messes; its steady-going, respectable citizens beautiful in her eyes; and the words "home" and "comfort" were not an idle mockery here. Therefore the old lady joyfully smiled in smoky air, gazed with tenderness upon the grimy houses, and cast herself, metaphorically speaking, into the arms of a stout, ruddy-faced porter, as if at last she had found a man and a brother.

Nobly did the burly Britain repay her confidence and earn the shilling, which in that age was as high as one possible. He bore them to the station, got tickets, checked luggage, put the ladies in a first-class compartment, gave them all necessary directions about the hotel they were after, and when the bell rang touched his cap with a smile upon his clear, red face which caused Lavinia to add a sixpence to the shilling she gave him with a mental blessing.

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"I feel in my life have I seen such tall, fine-looking men, only they are all fair, which isn't my style," observed Matilda, with a secret sigh for the dark-eyed heroes from Turin.

Thus conversing, they soon came to the G—— Hotel, just at the end of the railway, and, without going out of the station, found themselves settled in comfortable rooms.

"Regard, if you please, these toilet arrangements, two sorts of bath-pan, two cans of cold water, one of hot, two big pitchers, much soap, and six towels about the size of table-cloths. I call that an improvement on the continental cup, saucer and napkin accommodations," said Lavinia, proudly displaying a wash-stand that looked like a dinner-table laid for a dozen, such was the display of glass, china, and napery.

"The English certainly are a clean people," remarked Amanda, softening a little as she remembered her fruitless efforts to find a bath-pan in Brittany, where the very last moments, during the famous siege of Paris, when the drought was caused by the Englishman using so much water.

"They need more appliances for cleanliness than any other race, because they live in such a dirty country," began Matilda, removing the soot from her face in flakes.

"Now, my dears, you shall have food fit for Christian women to eat. No weak soup, no sour wine, no veal stewed with raisins, no greasy salad made of all the weeds that grow. Beef that will make you feel like giants, and beer that will cheer the cockles of your hearts; not to mention cheese which will make you wink, and bread with a little round button atop of the loaf, like the grand Panjandrum in the old story."

Thus spoke Lavinia enthusiastically, as she led her flock of two into the eating-room at luncheon time. Being seated at a little table by one of the great windows, the old lady continued to sing the praises of Britannia, while waiting for the repast.

Isn't this better than a stone-floored cafe, with nine clocks all wrong, seven mirrors all cracked, much drapery all dirty, a flock of tousled garcons who fly about like lunatics, and food which I shudder to think of? Look at this lofty room; this grave, thick carpet; that cheerful coal-fire; these neat little tables; these huge, clean windows; these quiet, ministerial waiters, who seem to take a personal interest in your wants, and, best of all, this simple, wholesome, well-cooked food."

Here the arrival of a glorified beefsteak and a shining pint-pot of foaming ale gave an appropriate finish to Livy's lecture. She fell upon her loin-like beefsteak with a woman's appetite, and Matilda followed suit, while Amanda, who was speechless till much meat had vanished, and the ale was low in the pot.

"It is good," admitted Amanda, who took to her beer like a born Englishwoman, and swallowed some of her prejudices with her delicious beef.

"It's such a comfort to know that I am not eating a calf's brains or a pig's feet, that I can enjoy it with a free mind, and the sight of those two beautiful old gentlemen gives it an added relish," said Matilda, who had been watching a pair of hale old fellows eat their joint in a solid, leisurely way that would have been impossible to an American.

"It is so restful to see people take things calmly, and not bolt their meals, or rush about like runaway steam engines. It is this moderation that keeps Englishmen so hearty, jolly, and long-lived. They do not fear themselves to pieces as we do, but take time for rest, exercise, food, and recreation, like sensible people as they are. It is like running on a feather-bed to live here, and my tired nerves rejoice in it," said Lavinia, eating bread and cheese as if that was her mission in life.

## AN ABORIGINAL MEDUSA.

### Singular Collection of Live Reptiles—Boas, Anacondas, Vipers, Rattlesnakes, Racers, Joint Snakes—Visit to an Indian Snakery.

*From the Kansas City Times.*

Near the head waters of Cache branch of Indian Creek there resides an old Shawnee Indian woman by the name of Nel-talle-quash, familiarly called, in the immediate neighborhood, Aunt Nelly. She occupies a small log cabin in a rocky cleft or gulch remote from the Aubrey & Kansas City Road, and about one mile from the road. This old woman cannot be less than 90 years of age, although she will not confess any considerable state over sixty-one. She is a perfect recluse, as much so as though she were dead and buried. Few visit her lonely cabin, and those who intrude once upon her privacy seldom care to venture there again. An attache of this paper, in company with Mr. Enoch H. Downs, of Cass County, paid a visit to the old Indian's cabin a few days ago for the purpose of examining a rare collection of reptiles, said to be kept by the old squaw. After some little difficulty the cabin was discovered in a bend of the creek, completely concealed from view by precipitous rock banks, except from the south side of the ravine. A huge, vicious mastiff wolf dog showed his ugly fangs, and for a time disputed entrance to the cabin. The door opened and a hideous old squaw made her appearance at the aperture, and in a guttural voice said something to the dog, which at once retired behind the stone chimney at the end of the cabin. Without bidding the party enter the old squaw retreated herself within the cabin, leaving the door open. Following the old woman into the cabin, our reporter and his guide were for a moment blinded by the smoke and darkness. Standing near the door for a few moments, they were enabled to see the old squaw seated upon a block of wood near a mouldering fire, smoking a small red pipe, and apparently unconscious of the presence of strangers. Mr. Downs, well acquainted with Aunt Nelly's fashion of entertaining guests, had a quantity of each in her lap. The sight of these unexpected luxuries had a magical effect upon the squaw. Her small dull black eyes glittered with joy, and her leathery face brightened with satisfaction. She arose, on being made acquainted with the object of the visit, dragged from a large box and a barrel from near the fire, which at first appeared to be filled with leaves, but on closer examination were found to contain the old hag's family pets. Muttering some whining, sing-song words, evidently of endearment, the old squaw reached her hand down and brought forth first a huge "blue racer," which, half torpid, coiled itself slowly into a knot upon the stove-hearth. Then she took out several black snakes of various sizes, one of which was not less than four feet in length. Then she lifted out a perfect knot of mixed snakes, spotted, striped and yellow, which were hunted and entwined in a coil as large as a half bushel measure. All of these loathsome reptiles she said she had collected herself in the country around about her. Some of them she said she had had for years. Each of the snakes she called by names, and, after laying the writhing mass upon the hearth, left them to squirm and uncoil in the warmth generated by the fire. Turning to the box, she opened the lid and pointed to a large yellow and black boa constrictor which lay coiled up, filling one-half of the box. She caught it deftly by the back of the neck and the tail, and lifted it into our upon the hearth, and then took therefrom a huge brown snake, of a variety unknown to our reporter. Each of these monsters was at least four or five feet in length, and appeared to be far more active and lively than the smaller snakes. She then dragged forth an old wolf-skin robe from her bed in a corner near the fire, and unrolled a perfect medley of rattlesnakes of all sizes, from thickness of a cane. These she handled roughly, rolling the squirming mass out upon the hearth, where the visitors, at a safe distance, might view the loathsome sight at leisure. Upon the walls hung a variety of snake skins, rattles, dried snakes' heads, lizards, and pieces of dried meat.

This sight was the most repugnant ever witnessed by our reporter. The old hag sat down upon the hearth, laughing and chattering her horrid gibberish, and proceeded to wind the two largest snakes about her wrinkled old neck, and then to uncoil the half torpid masses of snakes. In a short time she had her lap full of the squirming reptiles, and appeared to handle and play with them as a child would a harmless kitten. The visitors, unable to withstand the loathsome, sickening sight, and the effluvia generated in the close, dark den, soon took their leave, leaving the old squaw to the company of her singular pets. She devotes much of her time to playing with them, allowing them to crawl over her bed and all over the floor, and feeds them upon lizards and insects. The former she catches alive, and feeds to the larger snakes at intervals of one or two weeks. She works a small patch of garden, and depends mostly for other necessaries upon the surrounding country, in which she begs. She refused to follow her tribe south when they departed a few years ago, and no love for them so much for her hideous habits that they did not regret leaving her. In the warm months she permits her pets to roam at will over the cabin, and in no instance has she been bitten by any of them, although they will hiss and dart with their poisonous fangs spitefully at times, yet she appears to control them by a few whining words and a gentle caress of her dull, black eyes. Nothing less to say old Aunt Nelly has few visitors, and those who have visited her are not anxious to repeat the visit.

### Mrs. Somerville.

*London Correspondence of the Cincinnati Commercial.*

One who knew Laplace told me that he once said:

"I find there are but two women who comprehend my 'Micanique Celeste,'—one is a Mrs. Greig, the other a Mrs. Somerville." The great astronomer was much surprised when at once informed that a Mrs. Greig and Mrs. Somerville were one and the same lady.

Mrs. Somerville was at the same time one of the most devoted domestic characters. She loved her harp, and her rooms were often the scene of the most charming companies. She was a lovely woman in every sense, and most gentle to all around her. All the great learned societies of the world sent her diplomas, and the Royal Society of St. Petersburg gave her the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

A friend of mine, who was with her when she received the Russian degree, tells me that Mrs. Somerville exclaimed: "Dear me, I hope they won't make me ridiculous by calling me Doctor." She was a perpetual distress to lion-hunters, never saying or doing anything eccentric, or giving grounds for any wonderful story. Among her earliest friends were Lord Brougham and Dalton, the latter of whom continually consulted her. She slept away her last moments, quite calmly of the guard; but at several successive landings, while the lady was still up, they would demand admittance to her room, look in upon the prisoner, see that he was there, and then retire.

The steamer was about arriving at Calhoun. The boat had blowed, or whistled, for that landing. It had also stood some suspicious manœuvres among the passengers, and, to admit the truth, among some of the officers; but yet nothing happened. I sat up later than usual, under a vague and shadowy impression that some "underground work" was going on. The pilot who was at the wheel—a lamented friend—is now dead. When nearing the landing, I noticed the boat in an unusual position relative to the bank—her head pointing obliquely across, as the others, while her stern was scraping along the bank in the bushes on the landing side. I looked, but there was no wind to explain it. I could not understand it. After scraping her stern along the bank for about a hundred yards, or at last nigh it and came into the landing all right. As soon as landing, the guard rushed up forward to watch the exit of all, forgetting that a boat has two ends and that it is possible to get off at either. Had they been cognizant of this fact, this true story might have been materially altered. After leaving the dock at this point, the guards, as usual, went to Mrs. Judge's room and demanded admittance. She, for the first time, refused to open the door, alleging as a reason that she had now undressed, and they could not then come in. They appealed to the Captain. He told them he was powerless. As the lady claimed, she had paid for her room; it was sacred to privacy, and he thought they had lost control of the prisoner when they consented to let him go with her room. The guards then declared their determination to see, and again demanded admittance, threatening to break down her door. She then asked them to "wait a minute," and I supposed she would dress and submit to the search. A moment elapsed, when the little woman stepped quickly and firmly out, closing the door with her back. Behind her, and with a cocked Derringer in her hand. If her manner was as I have described it — when she first came on board the steamer, it was now a hundred-fold exaggerated! A pythoness, a lioness, an enraged tigress at bay—pshaw! She can't be described as she then appeared. Have you not felt the spell,—the awful fascination of a great and terrible passion? Here it was,—her eyes fairly blazing, her hand trembling, not with weakness, but surcharged power; the glittering weapon raised, exposing its murderous half-inch calibre; its shining percussion cap and hammer, drawn back in dreadful threatening harmony with its mistress. No witness of this scene will ever forget the scathing, burning words that then hissed from her lips as she said: "And you would-be brave men in a lady's bed-chamber, would you? Is there one of you who is tired of life, and covets death? Then let him come, for, by all that is sacred, by powers hereafter, the man dies that puts his foot in this door."

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At Delaware, after several vain applications, the heroic little woman suddenly stepped out from her room, dressed, quiet, and dignified, as if nothing unusual had happened, and, with well-affected courtesy, invited the guards to enter. They did enter, and from that moment their consternation on finding that "the bird had flown!" In the "hubbub" attending the discovery, the Captain was called, then about 2 o'clock a. m. He could give the guards no comfort—men seldom find sympathy when outwitted by a woman—but he placed the boat at their service for a thorough and exhaustive search. The landing of the hero of the boat at Calhoun, instead of her boat, was now recollected and understood. It was all plain now, and the collusion of the pilot and mate on watch was self-avident. The captain charged them with it. They did not deny it. He reprimanded them severely, though it was observed that they were not discharged, for the certainly an act of mercy, though maybe, at the expense of justice.

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ROLLING GREEN, Dec. 14, 1872.

## SAVED BY HIS WIFE.

### How a Plucky Kentucky Woman Outwitted the Vengeance of a Wronged Father and Son.

*From the Bowling Green (Ky.) Democrat.*

A little more than two years ago, as the United States mail steamer Bowling Green, from Bowling Green, Ky., to Evansville, Ind., was approaching the landing at Morgantown, Ky., an unusually large crowd was seen upon the bank of the river—so unusual a crowd, in fact, as to attract the special attention of crew and passengers. Upon landing, three men, armed cap-a-pie, brought a prisoner aboard. The oldest of the party, afterward ascertained to be the father of one of the younger men, approached the Captain and gave him the following history: He said that he lived somewhere in the interior of Indiana, and that several years prior to this date the prisoner was a sprightly, attractive young lass, teaching school in the vicinity of his home, and, part of the time, boarding at his house. *Paterfamilias* had a daughter just budding into womanhood, and of course at the most susceptible age.

The reader anticipates me, no doubt. The oft-repeated story was re-enacted. The young school-teacher and the maiden became stitched, sugared, and, alas, with the result, also not unprecedented, she "loved not wisely, but too well." Before the discovery, the faithless swain deserted to parts unknown, leaving the poor girl to meet the horrors of her situation alone and unsustained.

The law of Indiana makes seduction felony, and the girl's father swore vengeance against her seducer. Annually, after the steps were duly laid by, for organized, when he had the most leisure, he and his son were accustomed to devote one or two months to a methodic and patient search for the culprit. Sometimes travelling by rail, then by river, and yet again, through more obscure and unfrequented parts of the country, in buggies or carriages. All their efforts were unsuccessful until the spring of 1871, when, pursuing their search through the Green River section of Kentucky, they, by some accident, found him teaching school on Mud River, Butler County. Armed with a requisition from the Governor of Indiana, and the approval and order of arrest from the Governor of Kentucky, they took charge of him. The young man lost, in the meantime, married an estimable lady, who was, at this time, the mother of a baby only three weeks old. His exemplary habits had made him many friends, and the peculiar, and to all, interesting condition of his family, caused this affair to exasperate them in no slight degree; and, in connection with serious threats toward the arresting party, application was made to Hon. John R. Halsell, then the Judge of this judicial circuit, and sitting at Morgantown, for a writ of *habeas corpus*, which was granted, and the prisoner brought before him. Upon presentation of requisition and order of the Governors, respectively, Judge Halsell, while feeling, in common with the whole community, a profound sympathy for the prisoner, was compelled to remand him to the custody of his prosecutors. Fearing a mob and violence, which were threatened, they, instead of returning in their carriage, took passage for the steamer Bowling Green, and came aboard as already related.

The old man, while exultant over his success, was painfully apprehensive of an attempt to rescue his prisoner at Rochester—forty miles by water below, and near the home of the prisoner and his friends—and therefore he hired young Gilbert, a stout half boy, Kentuckian, as an assistant guard, furnishing him with a double-barrelled shot-gun and navy revolver. They all declared their determination to die rather than surrender their charge, and appealed to the Captain for assistance in case of attack. The Captain respectfully declined to order his crew to do any fighting for them, but assured them of good faith and impartiality, and that he would not place no obstacles in their way. Thereupon, rather startling and impressive preparations for defence were made before arriving at Rochester, and an attempt may have been contemplated and abandoned in view of the desperate resistance indicated. There was quite a crowd in session at the landing, and some trepidation manifested by both parties, but fortunately there was no attempt to release the prisoner. Instead, there came aboard a small, delicate, pale-faced woman, with a three-weeks old babe in her arms. The woman had ridden about twelve miles through mud, cold and sleet, to intercept the boat that was bearing her husband to a felon's cell in an Indiana Penitentiary. Whatever may have been his indiscretions—as she mildly termed them—in his earlier youth, she said to the Captain that he had always been noble, kind, and true to her. She knew of this sad affair in his history before her marriage, knew the girl was utterly worthless, and that in this affair, her husband was more the victim than the girl—"more sinned against than sinning." Many persons present knowing and bearing witness to his exemplary life, and impressed with their evident mutual affection, the lively sympathy of all on board the steamer was soon manifest.

But I anticipate. Shortly after the boat was backed from the landing all night. As soon as landing, the guard rushed up forward to watch the exit of all, forgetting that a boat has two ends and that it is possible to get off at either. Had they been cognizant of this fact, this true story might have been materially altered. After leaving the dock at this point, the guards, as usual, went to Mrs. Judge's room and demanded admittance. She, for the first time, refused to open the door, alleging as a reason that she had now undressed, and they could not then come in. They appealed to the Captain. He told them he was powerless. As the lady claimed, she had paid for her room; it was sacred to privacy, and he thought they had lost control of the prisoner when they consented to let him go with her room. The guards then declared their determination to see, and again demanded admittance, threatening to break down her door. She then asked them to "wait a minute," and I supposed she would dress and submit to the search. A moment elapsed, when the little woman stepped quickly and firmly out, closing the door with her back. Behind her, and with a cocked Derringer in her hand. If her manner was as I have described it — when she first came on board the steamer, it was now a hundred-fold exaggerated! A pythoness, a lioness, an enraged tigress at bay—pshaw! She can't be described as she then appeared. Have you not felt the spell,—the awful fascination of a great and terrible passion? Here it was,—her eyes fairly blazing, her hand trembling, not with weakness, but surcharged power; the glittering weapon raised, exposing its murderous half-inch calibre; its shining percussion cap and hammer, drawn back in dreadful threatening harmony with its mistress. No witness of this scene will ever forget the scathing, burning words that then hissed from her lips as she said: "And you would-be brave men in a lady's bed-chamber, would you? Is there one of you who is tired of life, and covets death? Then let him come, for, by all that is sacred, by powers hereafter, the man dies that puts his foot in this door."

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ROLLING GREEN, Dec. 14, 1872.

## WAGERS.

### Curiosities of Betting.

Wagers have been called fool's arguments, but they are the resort of English-speaking people everywhere for the settlement of all forcible questions. In old times, in England, "betting" was the rule of life, as the literature of the last century and the century before show. Sir Robert Walpole at his country-seat, Houghton Hall, he had not misquoted "Horace" in Parliament. The Clerk of the House declared Pulteney right upon which Sir Robert threw the guineas across the House to be picked up by his opponent, with the remark that it was the first public money he had touched for a long time. The headquarters of betters were at White's, where it is written: "One of the youths at White's has committed murder, and intends to repeat it." He betted fifteen hundred guineas that a man could live twelve hours under water; hired a desperate fellow, sunk him in a ship by way of experiment, and both ship and men have not appeared since. Another man and ship are to be tried for the same. "Many bets were made about the duration of longevity. A writer, referring to this, says: 'Among those who would be gainers by the death of a person on whom a wager is laid, "watch all the stages of his illness, and are as impatient for his death as the undertaker who expects to have the care of the funeral." Quite the other side of the picture: "Others are very solicitous about his recovery, and, hour to hour know how he does, and take as much care of him as a clergyman's wife does of her husband, who has no other fortune than his living. I remember a man with the constitution of a porter, upon whose life very great odds were laid; but when the person he was pitted against was carried to his grave, he was observed to lift his head, and the knowing ones were taken in."

Lord Mountfore and Sir John Dland staked twenty guineas a side upon the lives of two noblemen, the former backing Beau Nash to outlive Colley Gibber. The comedian died in 1757, the age of 88; and the beau in 1761, at the age of 91, but before the latter event came about both the wagers had committed suicide. At the house of Sir Mark Sykes, the conversation turned upon the dangers to which Bonaparte was exposed, and the host offered to take a hundred guineas from any one of the company, and go back a guinea a day as long as Bonaparte lived. The Rev. R. Gilbert accepted the offer, and paid down his hundred guineas. Twenty years had rolled away, and the parson, now a very old man, was regularly enough, then the baronet grew tired of his bad bargain, and refused to continue his payments. The clergyman brought an action to compel Sir Mark to fulfill the agreement. The Court decided that as the wager did not manifest interest in the preservation of the life of a public enemy, and, on the other hand, held out an inducement to plot his assassination it tended to produce public mischief, and was therefore illegal.

Wagers have sometimes proved fatal to the unconscious subjects of them. Sir Thomas Hoste of Alford, riding home from the hunting field with some friends, strolled his cook's peculiarity in such extravagant fashion that he was badgered into risking a considerable sum upon it. Unluckily, for the first time, the cook was behind time with the dinner. Enraged at the jeers of his visitors, the irate Sir Thomas made for the kitchen, took up a cleaver lying to hand, and with one blow killed his unhappy servant.

In September, 1739, says the *Annual Register*, "A young Irish gentleman, for a considerable wager, set out on Monday, the 23d inst., to walk to Constantinople and back again in one year, and in June of the following year, Mr. Whalley arrived about this time in Dublin from his journey to the Holy Land, considerably within the limited time of twelve months. The wager hinged on the performance of that expedition was £1,000. Buck Whalley was a Dublin macaroni, whose appearance in a swallow-tailed blue-and-gray waistcoat, buckskin breeches and top-boots created no little astonishment at Jerusalem. He was taken for a madman; and thanks to that belief and a stout stiletto, he went on his way undisturbed, and was enabled to return home to claim his winnings, and to was henceforth dubbed Jerusalem Whalley.

Some years ago a London waterman wagered that he and his dog would jump from the centre arch of Westminster bridge to the land at St. Margaret's together, and leaving from the bridge, the dog followed suit, but taking it into his head that his master was in danger of drowning, the faithful fellow dragged him willy-nilly to the shore, and by his well-intentioned blunder lost the waterman his wager.

An impudent rascal had such faith in the gullibility of Worcester, that he bet he would find fifty girls in going down the High street of that faithful city. Unfortunately for his speculation, he caught a Tartar the very first attempt, and got three wenzes! hard labor for his pains.

Brougham contrived to make a holiday for himself by the exercise of a little shrewdness. He was in his college days, that, by way of assuming lively life, he would one Saturday night, in order to make one at the Caledonian hunt meeting. According to the then custom, everybody dined at a *table d'hote*, and after dinner bets were set in. Brougham offered to bet the whole company that none of them would write down the manner in which he meant to go to the meeting next day. Those who accepted the bet duly wrote down their conjectures, and Brougham wrote down his intention of travelling in a sedan chair, a mode of conveyance no one had thought upon. To the races he went, an immense crowd seeing him safely chaired to the course, and the best was then renowned as to the manner of his return to Dumfries, the acceptors taxing their wits to imagine the most impossible mode of travelling. Brougham had calculated upon this very contingency, and, on the other hand, held out an inducement to plot his assassination it tended to produce public mischief, and was therefore illegal.

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Whatever we may think of the husband's sin—and of course none will fail to condemn it—yet certainly, all will join me in doing honor to the brave and devoted woman.

ROCKLISS GREEN. Dec. 16, 1873.

## WAGERS.

### Curiosities of Betting.

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Lord Mountfore and Sir John Dland stake twenty guineas a side upon the lives of two noblemen, the former backing Beau Nash to outlive Colonel Gilbert. The comedian died in 1761, at the age of 87; but before the first event came about both the wagers had committed suicide. At the house of Sir Mark Sykes, the conversation turned upon the dangers to which Bonaparte was exposed, and the host offered to take a hundred guineas from any one of the company, and place a guinea a day as long as Bonaparte lived. The Rev. H. Gilbert accepted the offer, and laid down his hundred guineas. For three years he received his guinea a day regularly enough, then the Baronet grew tired of his bad bargain, and refused to continue his payments. The clergyman brought an action to compel Sir Mark to fulfill the agreement. The Court decided that as the wager contained no allusions to the preservation of the life of a public enemy, and, on the other hand, could not be considered to plot his assassination, it tended to produce public mischief, and was therefore illegal.

Wagers have sometimes proved fatal to the unconscious subjects of them. Sir Thomas Roots of Aston, riding home from the hunting field with some friends, extolled his cook's punctuality in such extravagant fashion that he was staggered into risking a considerable sum upon it. Unluckily, for the first time, the cook was behind time with the dinner. Enraged at the abuse of his visitors, the irate Sir Thomas made for the kitchen, took up a cleaver lying too readily to hand, and with one blow killed his unhappy cook.

In September, 1738, says the *Annual Register*, A young Irish gentleman, for a considerable wager, set out on Monday, the 23d inst., to walk to Constantinople and back again in one year and in June of the following year, Mr. Whalley arrived about this time in Dublin from his journey to the Holy Land, considerably within the limited time of twelve months. The wager laid on the performance of that expedition was £500. Buck Whalley was a Dublin macaroni. His appearance in a swallow-tailed blue-coat, gold waistcoat, buckskin breeches and top-boots created no little astonishment at Jerusalem. He was taken for a madman; and thanks to that belief and a stout shillelagh, went on his way unmolested; and was enabled to return home to claim his winnings, and tell he was henceforth dubbed Jerusalem Whalley.

Some years ago a London waterman wagered that he and his dog would jump from the centre arch of Westminster bridge and land at Lambeth together. He leaped from the bridge, and the dog followed suit, but taking it into its head that his master was in danger of drowning, the faithful fellow dragged him willy-nilly to shore, and by his well-intentioned blunder lost the waterman his wager.

An impudent rascal had such faith in the goodness of Worcester, that he bet he would kiss forty girls in going down the High street of that city. Unfortunately for his speculation, he caught a Tartar the very first attempt, so that three weeks' hard labor for his pains.

Brougham contrived to make a holiday pay for itself by the exercise of a little shrewdness. He was in his college days, that, by way of seeing Dundee life, he went one autumn to Dumfries, and made a bet with a clergyman's wife about the Caledonian hunt meeting. According to the then custom, everybody dressed at a *table d'hote*, and after dinner betting began in. Brougham offered to bet the whole company that none of them would write down the sentence in which he meant to go to the races next day. Those who accepted his challenge wrote down their conjectures, and Brougham wrote down his intention of travelling in a sedan chair, a mode of conveyance no one had thought of. To the races he went, an immense crowd following him safely chaired to the course. The bet was then renewed as to the manner of his return to Dumfries, the acceptors taxing their ingenuity to imagine the most improbable method of travelling. Brougham had calculated upon the bet and won the double event by returning in a sedan chair.

The English stories might be supplemented by the multitude of queer election bets made in this country, at the head of which the whiskey-throw business stands prominent.

## CLINTON, IOWA.

### A Case at Law—The City Treasurership—Municipal Consolidation.

### Manufactures—A Fair—The St. Paul Railroad.

*Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.*

CLINTON, IOWA, Dec. 23, 1873.

A CASE AT LAW.

At the last term of the District Court held in this city, the injunction case of The City of Clinton vs. the Clinton & Lyons Horse-Railway, came up. A little more than three years ago, this city granted to the Horse-Railway Company a charter to lay a track on Second street, to be operated, etc., by the Railway Company. The charter contained a provision that the track should be extended to Thirteenth avenue. Now, the main track, and a number of switches of the Northwestern Railroad, cross Second street at Ninth avenue. The Street Railway track was laid to the railroad track, and the Company has steadfastly refused to extend it farther. This being so, the city applied for an injunction to restrain the Railway Company from operating the line. The case coming up at the last term of Court, it was continued; but Judge Brannan gave it as his opinion that the injunction could not be sustained; that, as the city had given the Company certain rights, those rights could not be revoked until the time expired for which the charter was given, even if all the provisions were not carried out to the letter.

THE CITY TREASURERSHIP.

At the city election, last spring, C. E. Bentley ran on the regular Republican ticket, and John J. Flournoy ran against him on a Democratic ticket, for the office of City Treasurer. Each received an equal number of votes, one of them being for J. Bentley. When the votes were officially canvassed, it was determined to give Mr. Bentley a certificate of election. The matter was contested, and Mr. Flournoy declared elected by the District Court, when he at once resigned the office, requesting the Common Council to appoint his late opponent to the vacancy. This would have been done, it has been ascertained, but for a personal spite one Councilman held against a man whom Mr. Bentley had refused to sue for the city at the command of this one Alderman. Another man was appointed, and our citizens are greatly incensed thereat.

CONSOLIDATION.

That word has become a familiar one here. It is well known that Clinton and Lyons are contiguous, their business centres being less than two miles apart. One can hardly tell where one corporation ends or the other commences, the houses of each are so close together. For many years, Lyons and this city were at war on almost every subject. By a lack of enterprise in Lyons, and an abundance of it here, Clinton has grown from a village of 1,000 inhabitants, eight years ago, to one of 9,000 now, while our neighboring city has scarcely doubled its population in that time. This result has brought about a more reasonable feeling, and the consolidation of the towns is freely talked of, though there are many bitter opposers of the plan.

Consolidate these two cities would make one of 14,000 inhabitants, the third or fourth in Iowa, which, in another decade, would be battling for supremacy over all others. The location of the place could not be better. It is in the great eastern bend of the Mississippi, directly west of Chicago, with which city it is connected both by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Chicago & Northwestern Railroads, and in regard to railroads, two others in course of construction, reaching their iron bands northwest, west, and southwest.

If consolidation fails, it will do so for want of popularity in Lyons. In this case, Clinton will have to gain alone what is expected if a union is effected.

CLINTON IS A MANUFACTURING TOWN,

and stands without a rival in Iowa in that respect. Any embarrassment to factory is just being completed, and will commence operations at once on a large scale.

One-half of Mr. E. Seymour's chair factory has been sold for $12,000, including no realty. The extensive building is now to be purchased by the new firm. Mr. Seymour has filled one order from Chicago, since he commenced the manufacture here, eight months ago, of $23,000. It has been demonstrated that this business may be extended indefinitely.

The manufacture of cotton goods at this place will commence in 1875. The machinery for the mill is on its way, or soon will be. This will be a new enterprise for the Mississippi Valley, and many other places are waiting to see what demonstration will be made here.

MECHANICS' AND MERCHANTS' FAIR.

A year ago, the Young Men's Association of this place, held a fair during the holidays, as an experiment. The enterprise was so successful that the second one is to be held this year. The exhibition resembles the Fine Art Hall at the Iowa State Fair in many respects, though it is of great interest. Many articles of antique origin, ancient coins, old publications, geological specimens, and representatives of all the arts, are brought together and finely displayed. Mechanical productions form quite a feature in the exhibition. The third story of the largest block in the city is engaged, and is now being prepared for the exposition. People will be present from all the neighboring towns to see the fair and attend the evening entertainments, which are of a first-class character.

THE ST. PAUL RAILROAD

is now completed, forming a complete river-line of road. Trains are soon to run through from Chicago to St. Paul, connection for the present with the Northwestern, but ultimately to run in connection with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Road, if a crossing of the river is effected. The latter road is now operated from East Clinton, and is not a very profitable "investment," and never will be until another bridge is erected.

QUID NUNC.

## SECURITY OF THE CITY.

*To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:*

SIR: To render Chicago a practically fire-proof city should be the prime aim of our municipal legislation. Whatever else we may strive for, the safety of the city is, beyond question, the paramount consideration. We cannot afford to be burned out a second time; nor will such a calamity ever happen to us if we have the wisdom to take the proper precautions. To rely upon chance or probability is absurd. That the city has been once burned is evidence that it may be burned again.

There is no such thing as chance. Every event has its cause.

The great fires that have occurred in Chicago, Boston, and London have shown conclusively that the so-called fire-proof buildings are the most dangerous, and, when once fully ignited, are the most difficult to extinguish. From their height, and the confinement of their walls, they are suddenly converted into furnaces, developing a degree of heat which renders them more unapproachable and more difficult to subdue than a thousand wooden buildings. This is a fact which has been but recently discovered. The danger from incendiarism is, therefore, greatly enhanced. That iron, and stone, and even brick will burn, has been most unequivocally demonstrated.

In Boston, not one stone was left upon another. The strongest granite walls were reduced to dust. It is clear, therefore, that more attention should be given to the internal construction of buildings, particularly of those which are above three stories in height. If the shelving, for instance, instead of being of wood, as is usually the case, were of some incombustible material, it is evident that the progress of a fire would be materially retarded. The goods, in such case, however combustible, could not easily burn, nor would they be as likely to be damaged by water.

Let the law abolish wooden Mansard-roofs and wooden shelving, and, in my judgment, the danger of a general conflagration would be largely diminished.

We are just learning the rudiments of putting up large edifices securely. It is an important science,—a science that should be studied by those in authority, and embodied in our laws.

No man should be permitted to erect a building that threatens his neighbors, or endangers the city. Every possible precaution should be taken, and without delay. It will not do to wait for another fire, to teach another lesson. It should not be possible for another great fire to occur.

If another general conflagration should take place, it would be, in large measure, owing to our own negligence. By day or night, this city should be, and can be, rendered perfectly safe.

Every citizen should consider himself a special policeman, and every citizen should be ready at all times to extent to the Police or the Fire Department all the aid in his power.

Every man, whether he owns a lot or not, has an ownership in the city, and it is his duty to uphold the laws, by which we are all equally protected in our lives, property, and civil rights.

The greatest care should be exercised in the appointment of our police. They should be calm, steady, sober, and gentlemanly men,—the true guardians of the city, and faithful observers, as well as executants, of its laws. A small police of such men, under stern discipline during their hours of service, is far better than five times the number of idle loungers,—public nuisances, supported at the public expense.

We can obtain such men, and they should be obtained, whatever the cost may be.

A fire occurred in Cottage Grove last night. It was just outside the city limits. It was a bitter cold night. The nearest fire-engine was one mile distant. Had the wind been blowing sharply from the South, a terrible danger would again have threatened the city. We are in a great measure trusting to luck. There should be no such thing as luck.

Let a fire break out where it will, at any time, or under any circumstances, our Fire Department, aided by the police, should be able to subdue it promptly.

This should be substantially a fire-proof city. Those who count the cost of making it so, or who fear the expense which such precaution would engender, are penny-wise pound-foolish" individuals, who, thinking themselves well insured, are comparatively indifferent to the general safety of the community. But, in case of another wide-spread conflagration, their insurance might not be worth five cents on the dollar.

Cost what it will, this city should be made absolutely secure from fire. Sound economy demands that this should be done. Every sensible taxpayer must be agreed upon this point. In comparison with this, every other subject before the City Government is insignificant. The safety of the city should be the first and prime object of our municipal legislation. We may be swept any night by another general fire. Our present means of extinguishing a fire on a boisterous night are small and unreliable. We should be able to bid defiance to circumstances. There should be no such thing as accident.

There should be no excuse whatever for a fire to get the start of the Fire Department. It should be impossible for such an event to occur. It matters not if the whole Fire Department should become exhausted by their labors on every night; a fresh relay of men should be ready for the next night. The head of the Fire Department should see to this, and be held responsible for the result. That the Fire Department should be tired out, and unable to do their duty, is a plea that he should never be permitted to make. He should have a full relay of men, ready on any and every night; and the power to fill vacancies temporarily, in case of need, should be fully accorded to him.

If, under such circumstances, a fire gets beyond the Fire Department, the Chief should be discharged at once. It will be positively shown that he is not the man for the place. He may be a brave man, and ready himself for any emergency; but, if he has no control over his department, and manifests in the hour of danger a lack of generalship, his removal should be as inevitable as the rising of the sun.

The head of the Fire Department, as well as that of the police, should be held directly responsible for disastrous results. They should be men of the first capacity, and, when circumstances prove that they are unequal to their positions, no live citizen should advocate their retention in office. Alter men should be put in their places at once. It may be unpleasant for the Mayor to remove them, but it is his duty to do so, without the slightest hesitation.

Unless an officer, in any position, has the confidence of the community, he is deficient in that force which is essential to the efficient enforcement of the laws. The Mayor of a city should be an absolutely independent officer. He should have but one aim,—the development and safety of the city. The responsibility of any fortuitous occurrence falls directly upon him. He should, therefore, be exempt from all ties, and his character and capacity of those whom he appoints.

If the Chief of the Police shows himself, by his acts, to be a narrow-minded and incompetent officer, he should be laid aside at once; the Mayor has no alternative.

If the head of the Fire Department proves that he has no capacity for wide generalizations, and is not the man for great emergencies, the duty of the Mayor is perfectly clear.

The three hundred and fifty thousand people who compose the population of this city are in no mood to bear with weak and incompetent officials. We want strong men in every department; and, wherever weakness shows itself, or what is tenfold worse, *corruption*, we demand that an immediate and radical change shall be made. The day for keeping favorite idiots in office has passed by.

Any man who betrays the interests of this city should have his official head taken off, and that, too, in the most summary manner. Yours respectfully,

J. ESAIAS WARREN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24, 1873.

## THORWALDSEN'S LOVES.

### How a Splendid Italian Brunette Enthralled Him—His Affection for Miss Mackenzie.

Great loves have been often the inspiration of great men. Petrarch tuned his lyre for Laura, and sung himself into immortality. Dante was inspired of Beatrice as well as of Heaven, and looks up toward her forever. Michael Angelo loved Vittoria Colonna with a love as large as his genius, as steadfast and as noble as his nature. But there are loves which debase, as did that which was the one blot upon the fame of Nelson. Of this nature was the love which Thorwaldsen conceived for Anna Maria Magnani. She was not noble enough to be his inspiration, or gentle enough to be his comfort. She was, instead, his passion, his excitement, at last his Nemesis. She was a Roman girl of humble station—a lady's maid, indeed, to the Signora Zoega, at whose house the sculptor was an honored guest. But she had dark hair, and flashing eyes, and carried her head as proudly as a Princess in a picture; and the Italian blood was warm in her veins. Thorwaldsen was about 33 then,—he did not mature early,—but he had still a youthful and delicate beauty, not uncommon among the natives of the North. His light hair, his clear complexion, his blue eyes, formed an admirable contrast to the girl's brunette charms. She was the first to fall in love, but presently the passion mastered Thorwaldsen also, and she became his mistress. It was not long, however, before, impatient to improve her condition, she made a new conquest and married a man of higher rank and simpler means than those of her artist lover. Her relations with the sculptor were scarcely interrupted, but the young Dane, being of a more sensitive nature than the lady, suffered cruelly; and when the bridegroom carried off his wife to Florence, fell seriously ill. Anna Maria had not the slightest affection for her husband, whom she had married simply because she was anxious to rise from the humble station where her birth had placed her. But as she was unwilling to break the tie which bound her to the artist, she was quite aware that she might sooner or later be abandoned by her legal protector. She prevailed, therefore, upon her lover, whose prospects of pecuniary success had now somewhat improved, to enter into a formal engagement, in writing, to provide for her support in case of rupture with her husband. Having thus put up her umbrella, she did not care how quickly the storm burst. The crisis came at Florence, and was announced to Thorwaldsen in a document dated June 12, 1808. It was a summons in due legal form, commanding him, on the part of the Signora Anna Maria d'Uneden, to appear forthwith and perform the engagement entered into by him with the lady aforesaid. He acquitted himself of his obligations by receiving her into his house. Once installed there, she tormented him by her espionage and her jealousy, until he must have wished a thousand times that he could reverse Pygmalion, and turn this woman into marble. Not even the birth of a daughter, to whom Thorwaldsen was tenderly attached, seems to have ennobled the passionate, undisciplined Italian. Sometimes the sculptor submitted to her; at others he broke his chains and took a vacation, from which, however, he always dutifully returned to his domestic torment.

After fourteen or fifteen years of this unsatisfactory life, real trouble came to Anna Maria in the shape of two rivals. Hitherto her jealousies had been unfounded; but Thorwaldsen conceived a serious interest in Miss Frances Mackenzie, a Scotch-English woman, virtuous, well-born. She was not remarkable for her beauty; but she possessed a fine and cultivated mind, and a noble and kindly heart. Thorwaldsen was 48 years old. He had ceased to expect love's divinest ecstacies. He admired Miss Mackenzie, and enjoyed her society. His friends earnestly desired to see him happily settled in domestic life, with a really worthy wife. Soon he began to behave like a young lover. He was at this time away from Anna Maria. Miss Mackenzie's gentleness touched him; her strength refreshed him. He was away from home in pursuit of health, and he gave Miss Mackenzie every reason to expect to be his wife. But when he returned to Rome his first interview with Anna Maria was terrible. "The eyes of the jealous Italian flashed fire, her anger broke out in curses, and she finally threatened in her desperation that, if he dared to marry the English woman, she would kill him, kill her child, and then put an end to her own wretched life." Thorwaldsen feared to push her to this last extremity; and accordingly to the wont of his nature, he temporized. He grew to feel that only affection, and not love, bound him to Miss Mackenzie. He neglected her; was cool toward her; and yet hesitated to give any positive expression to his changed feelings. A crisis was needed; and, as the gods and goddesses of Grecian story used always to come down states from Olympus and interfere in the events which moved too slowly, so on the last night of 1818 another Frances, a seductive Viennese, rose like Venus upon the scene, and roused in Thorwaldsen a mad passion, which convinced him that at forty-eight a man has not yet turned to stone. This new divinity appeared "in all the warm, mature splendor of thirty-five," ardent, bewildering; described by her contemporaries as "a radiant, setting sun, flushing with its golden rays a beautiful autumn evening." Some of the letters which passed between these two have been preserved, and they are touched with flame. Poor Miss Mackenzie was now entirely neglected, while day after day she saw her betrothed enter the doors of her rival, who lived opposite. At last she summoned pride to her aid, and broke off her acquaintance with him in a letter so noble, so touching, that it awoke him to a late tenderness, and led to his breaking, in his turn, the bond which held him to his beautiful Viennese. To free himself from all his entanglements, he bade Rome good-bye, and embarked for Denmark, July 14, 1819. He left even Anna Maria behind him, and she appears no more in his history, though he did not die a night of his child, whom he subsequently took legal measures to legitimate.

## POETRY OF GEMS.

### Sparkle of Diamonds and Glint of Ruby—Tales, Legends, and Stories of Precious Stones.

*From the New York Mail.*

Upon the diamond the ancients engraved the figure of Mars, believing that victory would come to the wearer of such a diamond, no matter how great the number of his adversaries.

To lose a diamond was a piece of ill-luck from which was augured the approach of some dire misfortune.

The largest diamond which is known belongs to the Rajah of Mattan in the East Indies. This diamond has been in the same royal family for a century and a half, and although large sums have been offered for it, and bloody wars have been fought to gain possession of it, the jewel still graces the Indian crown,—as the Rajah believes that parting with so costly a gem would insure destruction to himself and dynasty. The diamond is celebrated for the marvellous cures it performs when sufferers bathe in the water in which it has been steeped.

Precious stones seem to have been worn in ancient times as amulets or charms to protect the wearers from evil, and they were often engraved with some curious device or magical inscription. Thus earrings came to be placed in the ears and strings of jewels hung around the neck.

Besides the healing of diseases, many other properties are ascribed to gems.

Every one has read of the famous ring of that Lydian monarch, Gyges, which was fabled to render its owner invincible.

The Jews were accustomed to prophesy future events by the changing color or brilliancy of twelve precious stones, on which were engraved a set of anagrams of the name of God.

An old Jewish tradition says that all the light that Noah had in the ark was derived from the dazzling splendor of jewels.

The first person who ever wore a ring with a stone in it is said to have been Prometheus, who was condemned by Jupiter to wear upon his finger a piece of Mount Caucasus, to which he had been chained. This stone was set in a ring of iron.

The seven planets were once believed to have an influence over seven precious stones. There was some mystical tie between Saturn and the turquoise; Jupiter and the cornelian; Mars and the emerald; the sun and the diamond; Venus and the amethyst; Mercury and the loadstone; the Moon and the crystal.

In Poland, at this day, each month is supposed to be under the influence of some jewel, which also affects the person born in that particular month, and upon birthdays presents are given containing the natal stone. The garnet, emblematic of constancy and fidelity, is dedicated to January; the amethyst, sincerity, to February; the bloodstone, courage and presence of mind, to March; the diamond, innocence, to April; the sapphire, success in love, to May; the agate, health and long life, to June; the cornelian, contented mind, to July; the sardonyx, conjugal fidelity, to August; the chrysolite, antidote against madness, to September; the opal, hope, to October; the topaz, fidelity, to November; the turquoise, sincerity, to December.

Perhaps no people have ever been so lavish of gems upon their attire as the ancient Romans. Think of that famous wardrobe of Theodosia with its

Sidonian mantles rich with purple fold,
Belts bossed with pearls, robes stiff with gems,
And head-plates shining green with emeralds bright,
And helmets rich with precious sapphires' light.

Pliny says: "I have myself seen Lollia Paulina, once the wife of the Emperor Caligula, though it was on no great occasion, nor she in her full dress of ceremony, but at an ordinary wedding dinner and visit, to be seen her entirely covered with emeralds and pearls, strung alternately, glittering all over her head, hair, bandeau, ears, neck, and fingers, the value of all which put together amounted to the sum of 40,000,000 sesterces" ($2,000,000).

Pliny also says of the diamond: "It is so hard that, if struck with a hammer upon an anvil, it will rather split both hammer and anvil than break itself, unless, indeed, it be first dipped in the blood of a goat, recently killed, in which case it will prove soft enough."

This fact, however, experiments upon the diamond have proved to be but a mere superstition.

Precious stones of the rarest value were offered in great quantities to the heathen gods, and statues of these were covered with sparkling gems. Many a royal dame might have envied the fair goddess Astarte, who is said to have been resplendent with diamonds, beryls, sardonyx, hyacinths, and emeralds, all brought to her shrine by pilgrims from all lands—Egyptians, Ethiopians, Indians, Medes, Armenians, and Babylonians.

Precious gems were also used to lighten the horror of tombs, and we are told that the tomb of Edward the Confessor, in Westminster Abbey, contained 84 jewels of great value, and the tomb of Thomas a Becket, in Canterbury Cathedral, was celebrated for its great wealth of gems.

"The timber work of the shrine on the outside," says Stow, "was covered with plates of gold, damasked with gold wire, which ground of gold was again covered with jewels of gold, as rings, ten or twelve cramped with gold wire into the said ground of gold; many of these rings having stones in them, broaches, images, angels, precious stones, and great pearls."

Within this shrine the wealth corresponded to its outer walls, and Erasmus, who was permitted, before the Reformation, to look upon the treasures, says that "under a coffin of wood, enclosing another of gold, which was drawn up by ropes and pulleys, he beheld an amount of riches the value of which he was unable to estimate. Gold was the meanest thing visible in the whole place glittered with the rarest and most precious gems, which were generally of extraordinary size, and some larger than the egg of a goose."

The enormous value of all this wealth was too great for the cupidity of Henry VIII. and he accordingly appropriated it to himself.

The Abbey of St. Denis during the middle ages was regarded as one of the marvels of Europe, and was visited by strangers from all parts of the civilized world.

Here the Kings of France were buried, surrounded by untold treasures—jewels and other valuables placed within their tombs, and offered at the shrine of the Virgin and to the saints. Many of these articles belong to history, and have a world-wide fame, but we can only mention a few of them; a brilliant ruby in which was enchased a thorn claimed to have belonged to the crown worn by Christ; the crown of Charlemagne, of gold enriched with jewels and worn at the coronation of the Kings of France; the gold crown of the consort of Charles IV., set with gems; a book of the Epistles and Gospels bound in gold and the binding covered with gems; St. Louis' ring with a sparkling sapphire, and a shrine containing the bones of St. Louis set with precious gems.

One of the rarest and most valuable of gems is the oriental ruby. A *perfect* ruby exceeding one carat is said to be higher prized than the diamond. A ruby which once belonged to Rudolf II. was valued at a sum not less than £30,000, and in size resembled a small hen's egg.

The King of Ava is said to possess one of the same weight, which he wears as an ear-pendant.

The Emperor of Russia possesses the largest oriental ruby known. It was brought from China, and owned by Prince Menzikoff.

Peter the Great of Russia, when he was visiting England, presented as a farewell gift to King William a splendid ruby, worth £10,000, which, in accordance with his well-known eccentricity of character, he took from his pocket wrapped in a bit of common brown paper.

A famous ruby which once belonged to Edward, the Black Prince, is now prominent in the royal crown of England. This ruby is pierced through the centre—after the Eastern manner. It was worn in the battle of Agincourt, 1415, by Henry V.

The King of the island of Ceylon—famous for its wealth in jewel mines—was said to have possessed the largest ruby ever seen, being a span in length and as thick as a man's arm.

"It has," says Marco Polo, "the appearance of a glowing fire, and is so valuable that no estimate can be made of its worth in money. The Grand Kahn Hubla sent ambassadors to this monarch with a request that he would yield to him possession of this gem, in return for which he should receive the value of a city. The answer given was to this effect: 'That he could not sell it for all the treasure of the universe, nor would he, on any terms, suffer it to go out of his dominions, as it had been handed down to him by his predecessors on the throne.'"

"The early Chinese travellers relate that in the seventh century a ruby was elevated on a spire in Ceylon, the light of which illuminated the skies. A Chinese Emperor wore in his cap a carbuncle of such unusual brilliancy that at the great levees at night, its red lustre so filled the palace that it was called the "Bed Palace Illuminator."

An old Chinese work says that the origin of trade in the Island of Ceylon was coeval with the visit of the Indian god, Buddha, who sprinkled the land with sweet dew, which caused to produce red gems and thus gave the people an article of merchandise.

Among the superstitions connected with the ruby is that it confers the power of seeing in the dark; if it be worn upon the neck. It also warned its wearer by change of color of coming misfortune, and cured diseases of the eye if lied over the forehead in a linen cloth. Plutarch says: "It is discovered when the moon is waning to the second of the fifes, and is worn by persons of exalted rank."

Next to the diamond and ruby, the opal is the most valuable gem.

The Empress Josephine possessed the finest opal of modern times, which was called "The Burning of Troy," on account of its brilliancy, which resembled the fitful light of flames. An ancient writer mentions an opal of the size of a hazel nut, which was worn by him with marvellous skill and clasped in the claws of a golden eagle. It contained all the various tints of the sky, and shone with such splendor that it struck terror into the hearts of beholders.

The opal was highly esteemed by the ancients, but modern romance has flung around it a baleful influence, and it is said to bring ill-luck to its wearer.

The beautiful sapphire, with its soft, velvety blue color, was esteemed as being a great enemy to "black choler, and to free the mind and mend the manners." It was sometimes powdered and mixed with milk as a cure for boils, which was surely a rather expensive medicine.

It was believed that if the name of the sun or the moon was engraved upon the amethyst and the jewel hung around the neck upon the hair of a baboon, or the feather of a swallow, it was an infallible protection against witchcraft, and also protected its wearer from the flight of locusts and of hailstones.

The amethyst is called the "Bishop's stone," because rings set with these gems are worn by the Roman Catholic Bishops.

The turquoise not only strengthens the eyes and enlivens the heart of its possessor, but is said also to take upon itself the consequences of a serious fall, and breaking itself to save its wearer from fracturing a bone. It was also supposed to lose its color if the person grew ill, and to be entirely blanched if he died—

"As a companionate turquoise that doth tell,
By looking pale, the wearer is not well."

One of the most beautiful and popular of gems is the emerald. This jewel is said to have been found in olden times so large that the Romans used emeralds for their mirrors, and Nero is said to have worn an emerald eye-glass when viewing the combat of the gladiators.

The early inhabitants of Peru worshipped as their goddess an emerald as large as an ostrich's egg. The priests, who had charge of this divinity, gave out that no gifts were so precious to her goddess as "her daughters," the emeralds, and therefore great quantities of these jewels were brought to her shrine.

Emeralds were preferred to all other precious stone for sparkling round the brim of a jewelled goblet.

Those who engraved upon gems were accustomed to gaze for a time upon emerald to refresh their wearied eyes. This stone was also considered a preservative of epilepsy and other diseases. It was held in such esteem by the Romans that Pliny tells that when the famous Lucullus landed at Alexandria, Ptolemy, who wish to attach him forever to his interests, could think of no more precious gift with which to win his regard than a precious emerald set in gold and with his portrait engraved upon it.

### Hyperbole of Different Nations.

The Spaniards and the Gascons have been the greatest practicers of the art of hyperbole. In the seventeenth century a little book was published with the title "Al-man-air, or Rhodomontades of the Most Horrible, Terrible, and Invincible Deeds of Sir Frederick Fight-all." This contains many of the rascondes quoted in more modern jest-books. Here is one of these that has undergone various alterations: "If I come to thee with my foot I will kick thee so high into the air that, hadst thou ten cart loads of bread, thou shouldst be in greater fear of starving than of falling." Another is an elaborate description of the vapors of the furniture: "My bedstead is made of the ribs of giants, the ticking of my bed

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TO-DAY'S AMUSEMENTS.

McVICKER'S THEATRE—Madison street, between State and Dearborn. Engagement of Miss Charlotte Cushman. "Guy Mannering."

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. New Comedy Company. "The Lancashire Lass."

AIKEN'S THEATRE—Wabash avenue, corner of Congress street. Engagement of Lawrence Barrett. "Julius Cæsar."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Halsted street, south of Madison. Engagement of the Carroll Family. New Sensational drama, entitled "Our Mother."

MYER'S OPERA HOUSE—Monroe street, between State and Dearborn. Arlington, Cotton & Kemble's Minstrel and Burlesque Troupe.

GLOBE THEATRE—Desplaines street, between Madison and Washington. The Leon Brothers. "The Union Scouts."

NIXON'S AMPHITHEATRE—Clinton street, between Washington and Randolph. Engagement of Zoe.


BUSINESS NOTICES.

ROYAL HAVANA LOTTERY. GRAND, EXTRAORDINARY DRAWING, whole tickets $60. H. MAURICE & CO., Bankers, 30 Wall-st., Box 629, P. O., New York.

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# The Chicago Tribune.

Thursday Morning, December 26, 1872.


As the weather report predicted, Christmas was cloudy, and milder than the days preceding it. To-day we are to have northwesterly winds and colder weather again.

King Kamehameha of the Sandwich Islands is dead, and a movement, which may end in revolution, has at once begun, for a freer form of government in the island.

By the terms of the bill read in the Cortes yesterday, slavery is to cease in Porto Rico in four months from the time the measure of emancipation is passed, and the slaveholders are to be paid for the human property thus confiscated.

Roscoe Conkling, as a Presidential candidate, is said to have been one of the elements in the game of battledoor and shuttlecock lately played with the New York *Tribune*. The present owners are not for Roscoe. Nor is Senator Morton.

The Chicago produce markets were generally inactive yesterday, as the Board of Trade was not in session, that body adjourned in honor of Christmas. There was a little trading in wheat, on the curbstone, and the market advanced ¾c, closing at $1.19½ seller January, and $1.21¾ seller February. Other markets were neglected.

The Chicago express on the Indianapolis, Peru & Chicago Railroad was thrown off the track by a broken rail yesterday, eighteen miles from Indianapolis, and twenty persons injured, of whom at least three will die. A similar accident occurred to a passenger train near Cincinnati, with what loss to life, if any, does not appear at this writing. At Newton, Kansas, a train imbedded in a drift was run into by a freight train, and the conductor and one other man killed.

Mr. Richard Schell informs a reporter of the New York *Herald* that a suit will certainly be brought by some of the stockholders of the Union Pacific Railway to recover the eighteen millions of "swag" taken from it by the Credit Mobilier. When the eighteen millions are recovered by the Union Pacific Company, it will be a wise thing for the United States Government to recover the same amount from the Union Pacific. This it can do without troubling itself with a lawsuit.

A determined movement is now going on in Baltimore, on the part of the temperance people of that city, to suppress holiday drinking. Mass meetings are being held nightly at the Maryland Institute, addressed by such men as Hon. Schuyler Colfax and Hon. Henry Wilson, with the express purpose of discountenancing drinking at this season of the year. Their efforts are directed against the free liquor and egg-nog of the bar-rooms on Christmas, and the equally free liquor in private residences, on New Year's Day, supplied for callers.

The horse-disease, which has of late been ravaging the United States with such havoc, has now reached the West Indies, and made its appearance recently in Havana. Correspondents writing from that city state that the mortality is much greater there than in the United States, owing to the miserable stables, even the wealthiest residents having but very poorly ventilated places for the keeping of horses. The mules have been attacked even more severely than the horses, and, as there are but very few veterinary surgeons in Havana, and only one or two of them seem to have any knowledge of the disease, the mortality is becoming very great. The spinootle attacks American and creole horses alike, the former having it lighter, as they are better treated.

The London gas-stokers' strike was a dismal failure in all respects except one—an old lady fell off a platform of the Underground Railway, in the darkness, and was killed. The strike was not upon a question of wages, but of discipline. A dispute arose in one of the gas works, between an engineer and a workman, upon a very trivial matter, and the workman, refusing to obey the orders of his superior, was discharged. His comrades sided with him, and declared that they would strike unless he was reinstated. He was reinstated for the moment, but was again discharged the next day. The Stokers' Union thereupon ordered a general strike in all the gas works of the great city, and the order was obeyed by some 4,000 men, who had no cause of grievance, and who have one now in the fact that they are out of employment in the middle of a tight winter.

In the great Secor case of fraud, whereby the Secretary of the Navy paid $91,000 without authority of law, it appeared that the Messrs. Secor built certain vessels for a stipulated price, and that Mr. Miles Greenwood built other vessels of the same kind for a like sum. Both contractors made claims for extras, and both received pay therefor, the sums having been fixed by a Naval Board of Examination, and the appropriation having been made therefor by Congress, with a stipulation that it should be a final settlement. The Secors having, however, engineered their claim for $91,000 additional through the Navy Department, it is not singular that Mr. Miles Greenwood should now appear before Congress asking to be placed on the same footwith the Secors. We do not see how those who have justified the Secor payment can refuse to extend the same favor to Greenwood.

The hints about "lamp-post justice," made a few weeks ago by the New York papers, at the time when King killed O'Neil, bore fruit the other day in a plot to lynch Simmons, the murderer of Duryea. Forty friends of the victim planned a midnight attack upon the hospital where the assassin was confined by a broken ankle, with the intention of gagging the attendants, taking Simmons out, and, in a collective fit of emotional insanity, hanging or shooting him. The cold weather delayed their action, the police got wind of the affair, and the murderer's life has been saved from perhaps its only peril. Efforts are being made to arrest the would-be lynchers. They may be caught and punished, and Simmons be acquitted. In California, day before yesterday, a murderer was hung by the populace the very day he committed the crime.

Rev. Dr. Talmage's fire-proof church, in Brooklyn, was burned to the ground in less than one hour. It was built with corrugated-iron walls, fastened upon wooden supports, and the iron-roof was sustained by wooden columns. It was filled, of course, with wooden floors and pews. In fact, there was rather more wood-work in it than in an ordinary stone or brick building of equal size. A great deal of indignation is accordingly vented on iron as a building material. It ought to be easy enough, however, to see that the iron did not burn the church, and did not contribute in any degree to the catastrophe. Nobody attempts to kindle a fire with iron, whether it be the corrugated variety or common pig metal. Our own experience in building and burning teaches us that a building is liable to be destroyed by fire in proportion to the amount of combustible material which it contains, and not in proportion to the amount of iron, or even of Illinois limestone, that enters into its composition. Nor has that useful scape-goat, sometimes called "outside heat," and otherwise known as "peculiar atmospheric condition," any effect upon non-combustible substances. A building burns because it contains fuel, and for no other reason. Dr. Talmage's church contained rather more fuel than churches generally, and, therefore, burned more readily.

### THE CHRISTMAS HOLOCAUST.

It was particularly sad that the newspapers of yesterday, of all days in the year, should have been compelled to chronicle a succession of horrors altogether unparalleled in any previous issue of the year. Fatal accidents by rail, by water and by fire, murders and suicides, were reported from all parts of the country over the telegraph and through the mails. THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE issued on Christmas Day, figured up an aggregate loss of $3,334,000 in property destroyed by fire, estimating only such conflagrations as included $15,000 worth of property each. Taking the smaller fires into account, the total destruction of property by fire during the week would amount to not less than $3,500,000. These heavy losses may be traced directly to the excessive cold, which has thus caused death by the extremes of freezing and burning. The large fires which became necessary to keep people warm tested the flues and boilers; and churches, and hotels, and museums, and residences were consumed at a rate which should make the hearts of careless builders and incompetent architects quake with remorse. Corrugated iron used as a mere veneering for a large mass of framework, has proved to be anything but fire-proof, and Barnum's building in New York succumbed to the flames on Tuesday as Talmage's Tabernacle did in Brooklyn on the previous Sunday. The building which was occupied by Barnum's museum and menagerie was that formerly known as the New York Circus, situated on Fourteenth street, nearly opposite to the Academy of Music, which was simultaneously threatened with destruction. The loss of all the animals, except two elephants and one camel, was a serious one both financially and as a means of popular education. The collection of the wild and rare specimens of the brute creation, which constituted the chief attraction of what was known as Barnum's "Great Show," is a work of time and labor; and the replacement of the animals thus destroyed will be no easy task. Elephants, gorillas, camels, dromedaries, lions, tigers, panthers, seals, bears, leopards, yak, gnu, monkeys, pelicans, ostriches, snakes, birds, and beasts of all descriptions,—chained or caged so that escape was impossible,—were burned up together, the very ferocity of their nature having turned against them to preclude every means of self-help, and their cries and shrieks of torture assuming almost a human terror. A million of dollars' worth of property was destroyed at the same time; 150 persons are thrown out of employment, and twenty or thirty women, in another part of the city, narrowly escaped the frightful death that was visited upon the poor servant-girls of the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

This catastrophe becomes one of comparatively trifling importance, however, by the side of the railroad horror that occurred on the Buffalo, Corry & Pittsburgh Railroad a few hours later. Within eighty rods of a station, where safety ought to have been assured, if we are ever to look for safety on a railroad, a passenger train was thrown from the track by a broken rail, and over a trestle-work, causing the death by burning of twenty-five persons, and seriously wounding and maiming thirty-five others. No graphic telegrams are needed to picture the horrors of an accident like this. It occurred in broad daylight, within sight of a station, where the travellers could have scarcely dreamed of the possibility of danger. Many of those on the train were probably ready to alight at their homes, and to meet the friends waiting to welcome them to Christmas festivities. To be suddenly seized, as by some monster, under circumstances like these, to be thrown a distance of thirty or forty feet down into a yawning gulf; to be there roasted alive amid struggling and and shrieking humanity, seems to be the very culmination of horrors. If presumption of guilt be justifiable at any time, then it is fair to presume criminal negligence in this case on the part of the railroad company that must answer for the slaughter. Supposing that the breaking of the rail was attributable to the severity of the weather, and, therefore, unavoidable, there is yet no good reason why cars should catch fire whenever they are turned over. The safest way by which railroad cars can be kept warm is by the use of hot-water pipes. These pipes can be heated with one stove or furnace, located at an extreme end of the car, and protected by iron railings and braces at the sides. Still further protection is afforded by a contrivance used on many cars, especially sleeping coaches, which furnishes a reservoir of water, placed directly under the furnace in such a way that the turning of the car floods the stove above, and extinguishes the fire it contains. The arrangement seems simple enough, and its action would appear to afford certain protection against setting fire to the car in case of accident. It is safe to assume that the burning train on this road was not provided with such protection. If not, is not the management guilty of criminal negligence in its failure to provide such protection for human life as lay within its reach.

Added to the Pennsylvania horror, there was a freight train thrown off the track 20 miles from Louisville, on the Indianapolis & Jeffersonville Road, by a neglect in turning a switch, killing several men. An accident also occurred on the through train from Washington to Philadelphia, not far from Baltimore, in which many persons are reported to have been injured,—two of them fatally so. There were two cases of loss of life by burning, one from the explosion of a kerosene lamp, another from an overheated stove. Men and animals were frozen in a train blocked up in Indiana by the lack of water, which had congealed all along the line of the road. Another railroad accident was reported from Iowa, in which only one human being suffered, as good fortune would have it in this case. Still other trains were frozen up elsewhere, and steamers were damaged by the rise of the water in the Ohio River. Several cases of death by exposure were reported simultaneously, and from all parts of the country came the intelligence of misfortunes constituting, altogether, the most unwelcome Christmas present within our recollection.

### PUBLIC LOANS AND SYNDICATES.

The Treasury of France has a way of doing business that might safely be adopted in this country. The New York *Evening Post* commends it, and we think it is entitled to serious consideration. The French plan may be best understood by first examining our own. Mr. Boutwell has had authority for two years past to borrow money upon bonds bearing interest respectively at 5, 4½, and 4 per cent, and to apply the proceeds to the extinguishment of an equal amount of the debt bearing 6 per cent interest. He has authority at any time to give notice that after a certain day interest will cease on such bonds as he may describe by date, amount, and number, and these bonds thus specified may be redeemed on demand. He is, however, prohibited from increasing the public debt. In 1871, the Secretary insisted upon exchanging a portion of his new 5 per cents for outstanding 6 per cents, and forthwith proceeded to do so through the agency of the Syndicate. This Syndicate received the 5 per cent bonds, upon depositing their own checks upon themselves for the amount, and three months later they delivered to the Secretary the 6 per cent bonds to an amount equal to the sum of the 5 per cents subscribed for by them. During this three months they received interest at the rate of 5 per cent on $130,000,000, new bonds, and also received interest at 6 per cent on $130,000,000 of old bonds for the same period. This was either an allowance of interest for three months at 11 per cent, or was an increase of the public debt, and without any consideration for the same time. A Committee of Congress appointed to investigate the proceedings, reported that there was no other way to make the exchange, and, therefore, that the Secretary was right in doing so.

The plan followed in France is not to offer a bond bearing any specified rate of interest, but to announce that the Government will receive a given sum, say $200,000,000, upon the best terms that may be offered. Any person, therefore, may offer the Government any amount, great or small, himself fixing the rate of interest and the time of the bond. These offers the Government is at liberty to accept or decline, or it may accept so much of the money offered as it may consider advisable. This places the loan before the whole country. Any man may offer his $50, or $100, or any other sum, and state the rate of interest he is willing to take, and the duration of the bond he desires. This offer for proposals may be kept open all the time, with monthly awards. The Government is not under the necessity of paying 5 per cent interest so long as there are people willing to lend money at a less rate. It involves no expense for agents or Syndicates; when an offer is accepted, the money is deposited and the bond issued; there is no doubling of the debt for a certain period of time, no confusion, no deception. This process is, of course, objected to by the brokers who make money by acting as intermediaries between the Government and those whose money they lend. It is a very simple proceeding, easily understood, and inexpensive. An examination of the current prices of United States securities, and the prices of gold, will show that the Government 6 per cents, during the last two or more years, have not yielded more than 5¼ per cent interest on the investment, and, at times, the yield has been less. To take a new bond at par, bearing 5 per cent interest, and having thirty years to run, is, therefore, a better investment than to buy a 6 per cent bond at a premium, and liable to be called in at any moment. Now, if Mr. Boutwell will advertise that he wants to borrow several hundred millions of dollars upon the faith of the Government, and will award the loan to the lowest bidder, the latter to specify in his bid the rate of interest he will take, it is possible he might make a far more extensive, and certainly less costly, loan than the one which he managed through the Syndicate. At all events, the public will know what he is doing.

### SOME BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS.

The literature of legislation is voluminous. One of Colonel Benton's objections to the publication and circulation of the debates in the *Congressional Globe*, was that the reading of them was calculated to debase the style of American composition and vitiate the public taste in literature. The debates have not improved materially since the days of Benton. Congressman Snapp hardly fills the place of Corwin as a classical scholar; Chandler does not make good the loss of Webster; Sawyer succeeds in reminding the visitor that South Carolina was once represented by Calhoun; and the carpet-baggers generally are evidence that the Senate has suffered as well as the country generally by the rebellion.

In reading the files of the current publications of Congress, there is much that is interesting, much that is curious, and an immense deal that is worthless. We have before us a file of the current publications of bills, reports, and communications during the first two weeks of the present session, and in the mass we find some curiosities that ought not to perish.

A distinguishing feature of the legislation proposed by the new tribe of Congressmen from the reconstructed States is the preamble. They write out a sort of speech, which they call a preamble, and affix it to the proposed bill. Thus, Mr. Duke, of Virginia, offered a bill repealing all taxes upon tobacco, which taxes he recites in his preamble are "most unjust and oppressive" to the people in the tobacco-growing States, and he then adds another "whereas" to the effect that "tobacco is largely consumed by the working classes, who, in consequence of this tax, are compelled to pay much more than their just proportion of taxes." The same gentleman offers a bill to repeal all taxes on licorice, and upon medical books imported by physicians.

Mr. Morgan, of Ohio, thrusts a bill into the House "to secure justice to the wool-growers of the United States," which bill turns out to be a proposition to increase the duties on clothing, combing and carpet wools generally, and upon Australian and South American wools particularly. General Morgan, by this bill, proposes, practically, to exclude foreign wools, and this he calls doing justice to the wool-growers of the United States. The only injustice these wool-growers labor under is, that, for the empty measure of protection on wool, they are taxed upon everything they use, even upon the woollen manufactures they consume. They are the sheep that are fleeced by the tariff.

On the same day, Mr. Snapp offered a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay Peter D. Posey, of Maryland, $30,000, for the destruction of his property during the war. Nothing in this bill about the Civil Service humbug, or Nemesis' shirt.

Mr. Duell, who represents the Onondaga District, has two native productions under his charge, one of these is salt, and the other is a briar known as "teasels." It seems that the last time the tariff was tinkered, teasels, by some accident, were placed upon the free list, and Mr. Duell proposes, by bill, to have foreign teasels pay a duty of 10 per cent. Why teasels should have been put on the free list when salt is still heavily taxed, is probably a mystery to Mr. Duell's constituents. Mr. Killinger, of Pennsylvania, after telling all he knows about cheap transportation, proposes a general railroad law, under which any ten persons may form a corporation in any State or Territory to build and operate narrow gauge railways. They may take whatever land they choose for track and depot purposes, paying therefor, and are to have a general right of way all over the continent. To aid in this matter the same bill proposes the establishment of a National Railroad Bureau attached to one of the departments.

The rage for new Bureaus continues. Mr. Chandler has a bill to establish a National Bureau of Immigration, and Mr. Patterson a Bureau of Sanitary Science. The Commissioner of the Department is to have general charge of the health of the country, and is to have a force of chemists and clerks. It is to be a sort of National Board of Health.

The bills for the extension of patents are numerous. Joseph Fox has had a patent for a machine for making crackers, and has enjoyed it for twenty-one years, and he now wants seven years more. Thomas Walker has had for fourteen years a patent for apparatus for generating some kind of gas, and wants seven years more. James C. Cooke wants his patent for an improvement in manufacturing webbing extended. The legal representatives of Nicholas G. Norcross want his patent for an improvement in planing machines extended. The biggest thing of this kind, however, is the application for the renewal of the Wilson patent for a "feed motion" to sewing machines. This patent was obtained as long ago as 1850, and, despite the protest of the country generally, has once been renewed, the last extension expiring in 1871. The inventor swears that his profits from this one item have only been $87,000! The fact is there are now scores of sewing machines of various designs, all of whom have had, for 21 years, to pay Mr. Wilson a heavy toll for his "feed motion." He admits that he has had a profit of $87,000 from it, and the country, without inquiring further, will conclude that he has been well paid for it. The patent has expired, and this bill is to revive it. It is a remarkable fact that, though sewing machines are an American invention, they cost more in the United States than in any other part of the world. The plea of increased wages for labor is of no avail as an explanation of this outrage, because the American-made machines are exported to Europe and elsewhere, and there sold for less than the retail price in this country. The fact is stated that, exclusive of the table on which the machine is placed for operating, the machine itself does not cost more than $7. The difference between this sum and the price paid by purchasers is divided among the makers of the wood-mounting, the holders of special patents, the commissions of agents, and the profits of the manufacturer. Every manufacturer of a sewing machine who uses this "feed motion," pays Mr. Wilson a fixed price on every machine he makes and sells. As there are perhaps twenty or more improvements, of small details, patented, each patentee compels all others to pay him a royalty. In this way it is possible to know how many of these machines are made annually, and it is not unreasonable to estimate that the patent fees paid annually amount to a million of dollars. Who pay these fees? There are hundreds of thousands of machines sold every year, and they are largely paid for by those to whom five or ten dollars in the cost is a serious matter. The sewing-machine is now an indispensable article in every family, and more particularly among that class of women-laborers who live by their scanty earnings. While we admit that inventors are entitled to some compensation for their invention, there is a limit to their claims upon the public. If sewing-machines made in this country can be sold in England for $30, when $50 or $60 is demanded for them here, we think the equity of the inventor who for 21 years has enjoyed the monopoly, is fully satisfied. This particular invention is now free to the world, and we see no reason why Congress should go backward, and renew the monopoly, and again compel the public to pay Mr. Wilson a royalty for his feed motion.

### ITALIAN FIRE-PROOF BUILDINGS.

The destructive fire in Boston, following so closely upon that in Chicago, and the destruction of the Brooklyn Tabernacle and Barnum's Museum in New York, both iron buildings, give additional interest to the question of the best manner of constructing buildings of fire-proof material. Just at this time, therefore, a letter published in a recent issue of the Providence (R. I.) *Journal*, from Professor George I. Chase, the Professor of Natural Philosophy in Brown University, and one of the clearest and most practically scientific men in the United States, will be regarded as of special importance for some valuable hints it conveys relative to the manner of constructing fire-proof buildings in Florence, Italy, where he is now stopping. The hints therein conveyed are partly from his own observations, and partly from those of Powars, the well-known American sculptor, who has for many years been a resident of Florence. Professor Chase considers that the Italians are far in advance of us in the art of construction. He claims not only that they have better materials, but also that they use them more skilfully than we. The Italian principle of construction is to make every room in a building an air-tight apartment, formed of incombustible materials, so that, wherever the fire may originate, it shall be confined to that part of the house, and, having no egress, shall smoulder there for hours, and even days. To secure this end, the Italians make all their walls and dividing partitions of brick and stone, and also make the ceilings and roof equally tight, and of materials equally incombustible. Their theory is that the fire must be bricked down as well as bricked in, as the tendency of fire, where it can find vent, is always upward rather than lateral. Every room is, therefore, given a vaulted ceiling of brick, springing directly from the four walls. With regard to the manner of construction, Professor Chase says:

> The lower stories in all the best houses here are built in this way, the upper story being sometimes finished with flat ceilings. The bricks used in constructing the vaulted ceilings are from twelve to fifteen inches in length by about six inches in breadth, and only one and a half inches in thickness; they are sufficiently baked to give them power to resist pressure, and free from vitrification of surface, which would prevent the firm adhesion of the cement by which their edges are united. In a room twenty by twenty-four feet the centre or highest part of the dome need not be more than three feet above the base line or springing of the same. On first stepping upon such a dome, I confess to a feeling of insecurity, but its ring under the tramping of feet quickly assured me of its strength.
>
> These bricks are laid in mortar, and, to form a good floor, a second layer is laid over the first, the bricks of the former crossing those of the latter at right angles. The surface of the upper layer is then levelled by grinding it down with a slab of sandstone. A solution of glue, thickened with plaster of Paris, is then spread upon this surface, which is absorbed by the bricks, and, when dry, this is polished. Lastly, a coat of boiled linseed oil is applied, and, after drying, this is rubbed down, when the floor becomes as hard and durable as marble. The roof is treated in the same way as the ceilings of rooms, the rafters being bricked across, from centre to centre, and the tiles or slates laid immediately upon the brick work. A roof thus built stands in little danger of fire from the outside, and will smother for a long time from a fire within.
>
> The chief point, therefore, in the Italian construction, is not only to make each room of incombustible material, but also to make it a closed chamber, without communication with any other room, and thus to keep the fire in the room where it originates, and delay its progress from room to room. Prof. Chase also urges the necessity of open squares at no great distance from each other, but sufficiently apart, to give the firemen increased facilities in subduing the fire. Professor Chase says in this connection: "I am told that fires are of as frequent occurrence here as with us, but they very rarely extend beyond the apartment in which they originate. If you pass along the street where one of these fires has occurred, all that you see is a room with blackened walls, and furniture more or less charred."

The points of construction urged by Professor Chase are worthy of consideration by our architects. To make them available, however, it would be necessary that the mode of construction should be general. No buildings can withstand the heat of a general conflagration, as was sufficiently shown in the Chicago fire, and hence a few buildings made after the Italian fashion, here and there in a city, would not furnish a fair test. The principal object must be to prevent a general conflagration, and it seems to us this point would be gained in the Italian construction. Any mode of building which will confine a fire in the building where it originates will be fruitful in good results to our cities. The Italian method of making each apartment air-tight, and isolated from all the other apartments, would seem to be the very foundation principle upon which to erect a fire-proof building.

The untrustworthy character of the evidence of medical experts in murder trials has been even more forcibly attested in a recent trial in Belgium than it was in the Wharton and Schoenps cases in this country. A man-servant, named Agnel, was arrested and pinced on trial, in Bruges, for the murder of his master, M. Rigaud. The circumstantial evidence of his guilt was very strong. Master and man had had a serious difficulty on the day of the former's death. M. Rigaud had left Agnel the sum of 4,000 francs, in a will made before the trouble, and Agnel was known to be in urgent need of about this sum to clear off debts that were pressing him. It was shown that Agnel had, on the same day, procured some arsenic at a neighboring drug-store, for the purpose, as he said, of killing rats. When, in addition to this circumstantial evidence, medical experts came in and testified that M. Rigaud had died from poisoning by arsenic, there seemed to be a positive proof of Agnel's guilt. Among those who attested the presence of sufficient poison to cause death, were M. Girault, of the Imperial Laboratory, Paris, and M. Conde, a celebrated analytical chemist from Brussels. These gentlemen demonstrated the presence of arsenic in the stomach of the dead man by a subtle process of analysis, depending upon the test of affinity. Against their evidence, M. Coterie, also an eminent chemist of Brussels, came in and testified that this process was not only inadequate to prove the presence of the poison, but that it was one which would generate arsenic by its own operation. By a preconcerted arrangement between the counsel for the prosecution and the counsel for the defence, the final evidence establishing the innocence of the accused had been withheld until the testimony of the medical men had all been taken. Then it was that a letter from the deceased was produced, of the genuineness of which two persons gave evidence, which confessed that M. Rigaud had produced his own death, not by arsenic, but by a dose of antimony. The case will probably have its influence in determining the weight of testimony given by experts.

### ITALIAN FIRE-PROOF BUILDINGS.

The latest foreign papers contain sketches of the newly-created Peers in the German Parliament, by which help the Government succeeded in carrying through the Counties Reform Bill. There were twenty-five of these Peers in all. Five of them were from the army proper, including General Von Steinmetz, the fighting General of 1866, who was deposed after the battle near Metz, in 1870, and Von Peucker, the author of a work on "The Military System of the Ancient Germans." Nine of them are from the Ministries and their dependencies; three from the landed interest; three from the "inactive civil service;" two from the diplomatic service, Von Magnus, formerly Minister Resident in Mexico, and Von Eichmann, Ambassador at the Court of Saxony; one from the provincial Administration, Von Bardeleben, President-in-Chief of the Rhine Province; and Weyer, Attorney General of the Supreme Court, and Henrici, Vice President of the Court of Appeals. Nearly all of the new peers are octogenarians and are considered by the European press as mere bureaucrats selected to carry out this special purpose and nothing more. The real friends of reform in Germany consider that this addition to the Upper House is no reform at all, and are unanimous in asserting that the Government has adopted only a half-measure. The Cologne *Gazette* pronounces the confusion of opinion to be chaotic.

The new California code is a very peculiar one in its relations to home and the family. As it establishes universal equality in the married state, it leaves the husband and wife at full liberty to sue and contract with each other as before the matrimonial state. Should any controversy arise between husband and wife leading to their separation, the two can pay into a common fund certain contributions from their pocket-money for the support of the children, who, in turn, are not in the distinctive custody of either parent, the law saying: "When husband and wife are living separate and apart, the father, as such, has no superior right to that of the mother to the care, custody, or control of the children." As the law also says "the marriage of minors changes their status from minors to adults," there is nothing to hinder neglected children from going off and getting married, and thus becoming as good as the grown folks, with equal rights to sue each other and make as much matrimonial confusion as their elders. In fine, the Code virtually does away with all the distinctive rights of sex, and opens a Paradise for such discontented individuals as Woodhull, Claflin, and Train.

And now comes Egypt, waking up from the sleep and lethargy of ages. Progress has at last found its way to the banks of the Nile. As showing this, we are permitted to copy the following sentences from a private letter, dated at Alexandria, Nov. 10, to Captain Benjamin Richardson, of New York. The Captain visited Egypt several years ago, and will be remembered as the benevolent capitalist who, upon certain conditions to be performed by our citizens, has devoted his large property on the corner of Forty-third street and Eighth avenue, New York, to found the Richardson College of Mining in this city. The writer says:

> Great improvements have taken place in Egypt since the date of which you speak, and I have no doubt you would enjoy a visit here very much. The Viceroy is a very surprising and enlightened prince, who has done, and is doing, much for his country. Cairo is now well paved and lighted, presents much the appearance of a European city, with fine hotels, opera, theatre, and other places of entertainment. A carriage road now leads to the Pyramids. Steamers run on the Nile regularly during the winter season. Vessels occasionally go direct to New York. I can procure and send to you the sheep you wish, if you will give particular instructions as to variety, cost, &c."

Maryland clings to the old system of punishments for criminal acts, and notably in retaining the penalty of hanging for the crime of arson. It is said that this punishment is still justified by the law of New York State, but there, as elsewhere throughout the country, it has long since been discontinued, and the extreme penalty for the crime of arson consists in imprisonment for life. In a recent case in Maryland, a boy of 14 was tried for arson, and the jury was compelled to return a verdict of guilty on the evidence; but, considering the youth and ignorance of the culprit, the punishment was fixed at seven years' imprisonment in the Penitentiary. But the Judge informed the jury that their verdict was not in accordance with the law, and they were obliged to change it and sentence the boy to be hanged.

## NOTES AND OPINION.

There is no new feature in the Louisiana trouble to-day, but the longer the outrage is permitted to live the more hideous and revolting it becomes. Judge Bradley is now to go to New Orleans; at least that appears to be the present decision at Washington, and it is announced by the Republican organs as a partisan triumph. The people asked that he might be permitted to do so, in order that the alleged illegal and arbitrary action of Judge Durell might be subjected to his calm and fair revision; but their reasonable request is refused. They are to be left under the heel of a Judge who has trodden on the neck of the State, and now holds it helpless under his foot, with a Federal bayonet at its throat. With a refinement of tyranny, the people of Louisiana are told that they have their remedy in an appeal from Judge Durell's final decision when that shall be reached, while at the same time it is announced that the proceedings hitherto had before that convenient Judge are only interlocutory, and hence not subject to appeal! Meanwhile the press—the only remaining safeguard of the liberty of the citizen—is suppressed at the will of those who have already overthrown the Government, outraged the laws, and defied the Constitution, and the Administration at Washington looks approvingly on, and issues its edicts that the usurpers shall be regarded as the only lawful authorities of the State. Could these things have happened before the Presidential election?—*New York Herald.*

We have not for a long time seen a more disgusting newspaper article than one in the last issue of the New York *Independent*, written by William Lloyd Garrison. It is a sharp criticism of President Grant for attending the funeral of Horace Greeley. And we can speak all the more frankly on this subject because we have just squarely and thoroughly fought a stout battle with Mr. Greeley and his friends. The article is simply vindictive and heathenish. Unless Mr. Garrison has a personal quarrel with the dead which he cannot bury in the grave, we cannot conceive any motive that should have instigated this attack. The fact is, our reformers get so in the habit of mauling that, when they have destroyed the evil they were raised up to destroy, they cannot lay by their cudgels.—*St. Louis Democrat.*

Good Mr. Ames tells the Credit Mobilier Investigating Committee that he distributed the stock among Congressmen without any expectation of services or favors in return. Let us learn from him the art of enriching ourselves by charity. Here is a man who is worth ten millions,—every dollar of which he acquired, no doubt, by giving away thousands, without expectations of favors or services. It is at once touching and encouraging to think on't.—*St. Louis Democrat.*

The *Times* will be devoted, as in the past, to

an intelligent and firm support of the Republican party. * * * On all subjects, it will maintain an attitude of perfect independence.—*New York Times.*

Mr. Croly, who lately resigned the managing editorship of the *World*, is said to be arranging for the publication of an illustrated daily paper. This seems to be a wild story. But I myself have heard Mr. Croly talk of such an enterprise as not impracticable. Others possibly hit nearer the truth when they say that he is to take the managing editorship of Mr. Godkin's *Daily Nation*. This new enterprise, a daily edition of the *Nation*, Mr. Godkin is said to have determined to start with a capital of a hundred thousand dollars. He is a courageous gentleman, and has a wonderful faith in the American-reading public, if he does so. The idea he has, I understand, is a sort of an American *Pall Mall Gazette*. Mr. Raymond, of the *Times*, used to dream of such an enterprise, and once or twice went so far as to consult with his editors concerning the feasibility of issuing an evening edition of the *Times*, modelled after the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Then another daily newspaper enterprise is talked of,—a great daily on the co-operative plan. Ten or twelve "journalists of brains and enterprise" shall put in a small amount of money and take half of the stock, and ten or twelve capitalists shall put in a big amount of money and take the remaining half of the stock. The ten or twelve journalists put in their work at good salaries, and make equal profits. I don't hear much of this enterprise now. Other enterprises industriously talked about are weekly papers. The indefatigable gentleman of the Sun head, I believe, by Amos Cummings, the managing editor, and Mr. Wood, the night editor, one of the most persistent and practical of newspaper workers, are arranging to bring out a great Sunday paper, far ahead in scope and enterprise of anything at present in existence. The *Sunday Standard*, built over the inglorious grave of John Russel Young's *Daily Standard*, is the sickliest of sheets. Its first number, last Sunday, was notable for wretched grammar, dreadful rhetoric, and bad spelling.—*New York Correspondence of the Boston Advertiser.*

### GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

A commodity exists in the immediate vicinity of the Lake slate quarries, which is good enough for lithographic stones.

—The Cashier of a Peoria paper attacked the Lawyer of Lamgard, the comedian, at Peoria, and, with the aid of a constable and his revolver, collected $2.90.

—It is expected that 1,000 laborers from Europe, to work in the iron mines of Marquette and Houghton Counties, Mich., will be *en route* for Lake Superior before February next.

—Colonel W. S. King, of Minneapolis, and associates have concluded a contract with the Northern Pacific Railroad Company for the construction of 900 miles of the west end of the road.

—The Squamscott House, in Exeter, N. H., has been purchased by the trustees of Phillips Academy for the sum of $25,000, to be used as a hall for study and boarding by the students.

—James A. Pollard, Superintendent of the Vermont State Prision, has raised quite a number of cotton plants in the garden belonging to the State, a sample of which he carried to Montpelier to be put in the cabinet at the Capitol.

—Captain Blakely, of the Minnesota Stage Company, announces that the horses of the Company have all recovered from the epizootic, and the regular stage service has been resumed from St. Cloud to Brainerd, Alexandria, and other points in the northern and western parts of the State.

—Superintendent Wellen, of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, reports that so far as he is informed, the injuries of the ladies who were so seriously hurt by the accident near Reynolds on the 18th inst. were not fatal. The name of the trapper who was so seriously hurt could not be learned, and it is not known whether he is living.

—Daniel D. T. Warner

...Agent and firm support of the Republi... ...ty. * * * * On all subjects, it will ...an attitude of perfect independence.—...York Times.

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...niel D. T. Warner, one of the owners of ...ton (N. Y.) Springs Hotel and Air Cure, ...rial amount in the first degree, as the ...of the fire. Tracks in the snow between Warner's ...to the hotel and back to his house were one ...evidences of guilt claimed by the prose...

There is about $80,000 in insurance on the ...el to be contested hereafter.

## ...ecdote of Two Famous Sculptors.

...ust have been about the time of his jour... Bavaria that Thorwaldsen had, at Flor... singular interview with Bartolini. He ...ng been personally acquainted with the ... Italian sculptor, whose life was a con... and terrible struggle, first with poverty ... fine talent was at last recognized, and ...gle not less obstinate with incessant per... instigated by envy after he had gained ...self a high position in art. Lorenzo Bar..., moreover, not of a temper to shun ...bat; his independent spirit refused ...p to the arts of pleasing, and his char... took a coloring from the almost bar... habits into which he seemed to be ... by circumstances. He had heard that ...aldsen was in Florence, and he expected to ... one of his earliest visits. The Danish ..., however, having for several days neg... to present himself at the *atelier* of Bar... the Italian regarded the delay as a mark ...fference, and a falling in the courtesy one ...artist owes to another. He was not much ...y it, that he enjoined upon his pupils, in ...horwaldsen should finally make his appear... to tell him that he was not at home. He ...me at last, and was told that the master ...sent. He insisted, and gave his name; ...ply was the same. "But it is impossi... Signor Bartolini, not to be at home to me! ...d enough to tell him that it is to Chev... horwaldsen who wishes to see him." Bar... was keeping aloof in a small *atelier* at the ... large room in which his pupils were ..., and overheard the colloquy. Irritated ... persistence of one with whom he thought ... reason to be offended, he half opened the ..., thrusting out his head, "No, sir, I ... at home to you," he cried out, and shut ... Thorwaldsen, who was used to being ... received with the greatest respect and ...tention, retired, stupefied at this strange ..., which seemed to him a piece of inex... eccentricity, the cause of which he prob... never knew.—*From the Life of Thorwaldsen ...gene Plon.*

## ...ttle Composition on the Wheelbarrow.

Danbury *News* man says: If you have ...on to use a wheelbarrow, leave it, ... you are through with it, in front ... house with the handles toward ... A wheelbarrow is the most com... thing to fall over on the face of the ... A man will fall over on one when he would think of falling over anything else; he knows when he has got through falling ..., either; for it will tangle his legs and his ...urn over with him and rear up in front ..., and just as he pauses in ... profanity to congratulate him... takes a new turn, and scoops more skin ... him, and he commences to evolute anew, ...mp himself on fresh places. A man ...eases to fall over a wheelbarrow until it ... completely on its back, or brings up ... something it cannot upset. It is the ...offensive looking object there is, be it ...angerous than a locomotive, and no man ...e with one unless as has a tight hold of ...les, and is sitting down on something. ...elbarrow has its uses, no doubt, but in its ... moments it is the great blighting curse on ...quity.

## ...erman Emperor Gives a French ...urch to an American Church.

...om the *Titusville* (Penn.) *Herald*, *Dec.* 17.

...e meeting of the Building Committee of ...'s Reformed Church, it was resolved to ...King William one of the French cannon ...by him in the late war, to be cast as a bell ...new edifice. The following letter, from ...ch. Meyer, the German Consul at Phila..., tells the result:

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12, 1872.

*Rev. Bausack, Esq.:*

...happy to state to you that His Majesty, ...peror William, in reply to the petition of ...'s Reformed Church, at Titusville, has ...ted one of the captured French cannon to ...weighing about 2,000 pounds. You will ...communicate the fact to the congregation, ...so state to them that this piece of artillery ...awaiting transportation at the depot in ...

I am ready to forward it at your con... I have the honor to be your obedient ...

CHAS. H. MEYER.

## ...e of Power in the Right Hand.

...paper read before the Chirurgical Society ...don, Dr. Ogle states it as his belief that ...periority of the right hand, in works re... strength and skill, is not due merely to ... and usage. His reasons for this opinion ... the superior power of the right side is ...fined to the arm, but extends to the leg, ...t it commences in the arm before use or ... begins, and continues in spite of all ... to resist or divert it. This superiority ...sembles to some malformations, inso... it is hereditary and is met with more ...ly in the male sex, not only in men, but ... and parrots. The author further asserts ... left side of a right-handed man is great... the right, and *vice versa*, and he suggests ... greater development of the left side is ... greater quantity of blood which it re...

# A WINTER'S TALE.

## A Reminiscence of War Times ---A Story of '62.

### How a Boy in Blue Paid his Hotel Bill, and the Calamities that Followed.

### A New Light on the Old Song, "If I Had a Donkey."

In the early days of the war for the Union, when the flags flashed out all over our city like apple blossoms, and the boys in blue came tramping through Chicago on their way to the front, there was a spirit of generous loyalty afloat in community that knew no bounds nor stint. Citizens gazed with moist eyes and swelling hearts as the long, lines went marching through Chicago streets, from depot to depot, bright and brave in new uniforms, with barrels and bayonets that had never known powder nor gore; trappings unsoiled by camp life, and unscathed in the rain of battle. And when news began to pour back of advance movements, and reconnoitres in force, and picket shooting, and iron-clad gunboats, and then the flurries of news sent up the muffled thunders of Pittsburgh Landing, and Shiloh, and Island Number Ten, the feeling intensified, and waited to expend itself as it did, when the first instalments of war-worn soldier boys came straggling out from the theatre of war. They were wounded, ragged, but there was a beauty in wounds and rags. We would put in a fragment of Latin on the subject of this very beauty of dying, or doing the next thing to it, in the series of the country, but the types would probably spoil it,—types that are used on every day newspaper work take so unkindly to the classics.

But back came the stragglers, and one of them got into comfortable quarters in a city hotel,—we leave its name to be guessed. He was not a beauty to look upon, save in the light of the Latin proverb. He was foot-sore, ragged, and had army shoes so badly run-down at the heel that you might see a block away that he had no stockings, which gave you all the better chance to discover the poor chafed and swollen feet that were parting with such luxuries as socks for the sake of the dear old flag. He was gaunt and hollow-eyed, and his unkempt hair and beard-fringed cheeks thin and pallow with swamp fever and night-work in the trenches. He was not lonely in that unwholesome companionship the neglected soldier finds his closest friends. When he shambled up Lake street from the

SAFETY FILM



## PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

**The Fortnightly Review.**
London Quarterly Review.

**Henry Fawcett on "The Relations of Land to the State."**

**The Personnel of Parliament.**

## STAGE-SLANG.

**The Technical Language of the Theatre.**

*From the New York Sun.*

Perhaps there is no class in the eternal fitness of things which has a more distinct jargon of trade or professionals. And as there is a reason for everything, so there is a reason for the existence of this jargon, which is the desire to conceal all and devote information to one's self and friends. Like all other professions, that of the stage has its technicalities, which, just as the slang of the ring has to do with the details of the fistic art, so the slang of the stage has to do with the details of the theatre. The business manager has his responsibility, and so has the stage-manager, but the responsibility of the latter is not so great as that of the former, for the reason that the stage-manager has only to look after the performance, while the business manager has to look after the receipts. The business manager is generally called "the manager," and the stage-manager is usually called "the stage-manager," or "the director," or "the regisseur." The latter is the man who has charge of the stage, and who is responsible for the proper performance of the piece. He has to see that the actors are all on hand at the proper time, and that they are properly dressed and made up. He has to see that the scenery is all right, and that the properties are in their proper places. He has to see that the lights are properly arranged, and that the orchestra is ready to play the overture. He has to see that the curtain rises at the proper moment, and that the actors are all in their places when it rises. He has to see that the actors are all in their places when the curtain falls. He has to see that the actors are all in their places when the curtain rises again. He has to see that the actors are all in their places when the curtain falls again

## PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

### The Fortnightly Review and London Quarterly.

### Henry Fawcett on "The Nationalization of Land."

### The Personnel of Fourier

**The Fortnightly Review.**

Henry Fawcett, M. P., who is well known for his economic studies, which are of extraordinary range considering that he labors under the peculiar disadvantage of being blind, opens the *Fortnightly Review* with a paper on

"THE NATIONALIZATION OF LAND,"

in which he shows cause why the schemes of the Internationals other modern Socialists for the abolition of private property in land can never be made to work, and why, if they could, the result would be simply greater social and economic ills than those from which the Socialists flee. He says:

It is difficult to estimate with precision the present value of the whole landed property of the country. Competent authorities say that the value of all the land and houses of this country, exclusive of mines and railways, cannot be less than £4,800,000,000. This enormous sum, exceeding by six times our national debt, would have to be raised in the form of a State loan, in order to carry out the first part of it is policy of nationalizing the instruments of production. For, after such an expenditure had been incurred in acquiring lands and houses, it is probable that at least an equal outlay would be involved in purchasing the railways, mines, buildings, and various other agencies which constitute the industrial plant of the community. But, confining our attention to the first trans action, let us inquire in what way, and upon what terms, the State would obtain this £4,800,000,000. In order to put the case as fairly as possible, let it be assumed that the financial credit of the country has not been in the slightest degree injured by the social and political revolution which the nationalization of the land would involve. Let it be assumed that all probability take place before they can hope to see their schemes practically realized. It may, therefore, be granted that the Government would be able to borrow at the same rate of interest at which it can now borrow. Now, it is, in fact, every economist to suppose that it would be necessary to pay a considerably higher rate of interest. It, however, what may be regarded as the minimum rate of only 4½ per cent were paid, the annual charge upon such a loan would be £192,504,000. This sum exceeds by nearly by three times our present national debt. After making due allowance for expenses involved in management, the collection of rents in arrears, and the erection of new buildings, it can scarcely be doubted that the land and house property in this country does not yield upon the average much more than a return of more than 3½ per cent. There would, therefore, be a loss of 1 per cent upon the purchase money, or, in other words, there would be an annual deficit of £60,000,000. This large deficiency would exist, even if the rent of land and houses was in every single instance maintained at the present high level. The only mode in which the State could in fact derive advantage from the adoption of this nationalizing policy hope to secure? The belief that land is too dear and that house-rent is too high is the chief cause which has led to the formidable agitation in favor of this proposal; and the members of the Internationale and other Socialists would be the first to admit that they had been bitterly disappointed and cruelly deceived if they found, after the nationalization had been effected, that they were obliged to pay just as much a penny an acre for permission to cultivate the land or for the privilege of obtaining a certain amount of house-accommodation. It may, therefore, be fairly concluded that, if the State purchased the land, the annual charge for rent would involve an annual loss of at least £60,000,000, and the loss would be far greater than this if rents were not maintained at what is now generally denounced as the present extravagant rate.

Beside this, must be considered the jobbery, mismanagement, extravagance, and incapacity, which always attend Governmental administration. This would add £100,000,000 a year to the cost of nationalizing the land. To many it may seem as if Mr. Fawcett were wasting his time in discussing a project which, to Americans, seems so preposterous; but it must be borne in mind that the English land question is one of momentous importance, and, in addition, that, as a matter of abstract politico-economical theory, no less eminent thinkers than John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer have yielded to the doctrine that individual ownership of land is a public wrong. There are difficulties attending the scheme besides its expense. "What method of selection is it proposed to adopt in order to decide who shall be the favored tenants to be located on fertile and picturesque land within easy reach of large towns; and who, on the other hand, are to be the unfortunates who are to be deported to the bleak moors of Yorkshire or to the dreary wastes of Sutherlandshire?"

Competition would at once arise between the rich and the poor, and the latter would soon be as badly off as at present. Even if the Socialists' dream of the abolition of competition were realized in one direction, "it would simply exert its activity in a somewhat different direction. If the State decided to let every plot of land at an uniform rate, it is obvious that there would be as active a competition as there is now to obtain the most fertile and the most conveniently-situated allotment. The Government would have placed in its hands an entirely unprecedented opportunity of rewarding friends and of punishing foes. The vast sum which is represented by the difference in value between the more productive and the less productive land would be virtually placed at the disposal of the State to dispense as patronage. As a natural consequence, the whole community would be demoralized and degraded."

The theory is, that the State should let the land at a fair and moderate rent. "But, if the position of moderate rents is that which is desired, it is manifest that the charging of a uniform price for the use of land would entirely defeat the object sought to be attained. A pound an acre would be an extremely moderate price to pay for some land; but, in other instances, it would represent a rent so excessive that, if it were imposed, land would be thrown out of cultivation. Five pounds an acre charged for land in the neighborhood of a large city may be very much lower rent than two shillings an acre for land on the Scotch or North of England moors. There cannot be a greater fallacy than to suppose that the highest-rented land in the country, or that the lowest-rented land is the cheapest."

Another insuperable obstacle is the increase of population:

Impracticable as the scheme of nationalization has been shown to be, yet the insurmountable difficulties which lie in its way cannot be fully appreciated until we inquire what provision would be made under such a scheme for the maintenance and employment of an increasing population. At the present time it is known that the population of this country is augmented during each ten years by about 14 per cent. At this rate of increase population doubles itself in about fifty years. A rapid acceleration in the rate of increase is, however, the inevitable result of adopting the principles of Socialism.

It is to be presumed that the State, after having purchased the land and the various appliances of industry, distributes them amongst the people so far as possible, on cheap and equitable terms. Every one would thus, it is supposed, be provided for; there would be general equality of condition; the wealthy might be less wealthy, but the poor would be less poor; and the much lauded era of lodging portioned among the few, would be divided approximately in equal shares among the whole people. It may be assumed that the allotment which each would thus have would be sufficient to provide a comfortable maintenance. At the end of ten years, however, there would be 14 per cent more people in the country; as this extra number would have to be provided for, it would be necessary to make another apportionment of the land amongst the people. If the land was fully occupied before, each individual's allotment would have to be reduced by about one-seventh; either this must take place, or the increased population would be driven to unproductive soils which had not previously been reclaimed or worth cultivation. There would be, however, the reintroduction of a system of inequality; the occupiers of the productive land who be regarded as privileged persons, whereas the unproductive compelled to obtain a maintenance position of which head would be in the undeserved favorites of success.

In conclusion, Mr. Fawcett points a moral that may be heeded on his intervention that is:

It is not more, but less, that is conferred the most inestimable boon on the community, not by enacting fresh laws, but by the repeal of old statutes which have hitherto individual energy and impeded freedom of action. As long as the State attempted to regulate trade and to protect industry, there was little industrial progress. During the last twenty years, the commerce of this country, released from the shackles of which, though it were freedom, it had been fettered, has exhibited an unprecedented development.

It may, however, perhaps, be said: Can legislation do nothing to promote the welfare of the people? Nothing can be further from my intention that affirmative. I only desire to suggest or to recommend a policy of complete legislative inactivity; there still remains much work of the highest utility for Parliament to do. With regard, for instance, to land, reference has already been made to the important reforms which might at once be carried out in its tenure. We have one of the most complicated, costly, and dilatory legal systems that human ingenuity ever devised. Law is so expensive that the poor have constantly to submit to wrong without any chance of obtaining redress. It is a truism to assert that, when justice is dear, a premium is placed upon fraud.

Arthur J. Booth concludes his paper on the works and life of

FOURIER,

and gives this sketch of the personnel of this singular character:

He is described as a man rather under the usual height, with delicate features, and peculiarly expressive countenance. His blue eyes were brilliant when animated, and remarkable for mildness in repose. His light brown hair, changed by age into a silvery white, encircled a forehead distinguished for the beauty of its form, its height and smoothness. Its youth, he is said to have been of a lively and sarcastic humor, which he indulged in satirical raises and lampoons. But, as he increased in years, this countenance acquired a cast of melancholy, and he was rarely seen to smile. He became so reticent as seldom to speak except to answer a direct question, which he did as briefly as possible, and then relapsed into silence. When alone with a few intimate friends, however, he would talk for hours, with fluency, facility and eloquence; his habitual pensiveness would vanish, and the fire of enthusiasm rekindle in his eye. He generally went about with his stick properly noticed as a mesmerizing wand, and would take dimensions of any building that struck him. He would stop suddenly in the street, or in the middle of a conversation, pull out his notebook, and make an entry of whatever brilliant idea had passed through his brain. He lived almost entirely alone, and in his solitude he would talk aloud and declaim with energy to himself, a habit that led him not unfrequently to be mistaken for a lunatic. Very different estimates have been formed of the extent of his knowledge. In youth he had read much, and collected a great deal of crude information upon many subjects. To this he added his own speculations, which he was apt at times to substitute for more positive knowledge. In latter years he read very little, except the current newspapers and magazine literature, at this time was principally devoted to writing and the elaboration of his own theories. It was his habit to begin work early in the morning and to go for a short walk after every two hours' application. His works are very long; they are filled with strange words and endless repetitions. They affect extreme scientific precision, and tables of analysis abound. They are adorned by occasional hieroglyphics, and by letters or numerals turned upside down. They are curious to look at, but very difficult and tiresome to read. Fourier spoke in public with clearness and ease, but without any pretension to oratorical effect. He was very fond of animals, and, especially of cats. He had an intense horror of caterpillars, which, when he could, of civilization,—which would not, on their account, sit upon the grass. He once beheld a spider upon the ceiling over his bed. He jumped up, and, almost naked, rushed frantically about the house to implore assistance to remove the terrible apparition. He was a kind and generous friend. He would lend any amount of trouble to perform a service; and, out of his own small income, he was able to do many works of unostentatious charity. He was never married. It was said that in his youth he had an affair of the heart, and, notwithstanding the conjecture of his biographer to the contrary, we may doubt if ever his heart had been touched by the purifying influence of love.

Other articles are: "Codification in India and England,"—by J. FitzJames Stephen; "Opium and Design,"—by H. Lawrence; "Ireland's New Heroine,"—by the Editor, John Morley; "The Eustace Diamonds,"—Chaps. LXIX. to LXXII.,—by Anthony Trollope; "Mr. Nichol's 'Hannibal,'"—by Algernon Charles Swinburne; "Critical Notices," by Sidney Colvin; "A Letter to the Editor,"—by Montague Cookson.

**The London Quarterly.**

The *London Quarterly* for October, republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, contains articles on the following subjects: "The Duke of Wellington as Chief Minister;" "The Completing of St. Paul's;" "Baron Stockmar;" "The Consciousness of Dogs;" "Velasquez;" "Journal of a French Diplomatist in Italy;" "East African Slave-Trade;" "The Position of Parties."

**Mr. Greeley as a Political Editor.**

*From the New York Tribune.*

We have said not a little of the character of the late Mr. Greeley, but there was a phase of it to which specific allusion must yet in justice be made. So much of his life and strength was given to politics, he was so identified with the partisan struggles of his time, so warm an admirer and so good a hater of the courses of public men, so staunch a Whig and so uncompromising a Republican as to principles, however little he might regard names, that men came not naturally to think of him as simply a partisan. Nothing could be more curiously unjust. No critical judgment could be more easily and authoritatively refuted. It is as if one who is always giving would be charged with selfishness; as if a liberal religionist should be accused of the theological hatreds. All who have been other than careless readers of the *Tribune* know that, in the conduct of this newspaper, he never suffered himself to be betrayed by any considerations of party expediency into any political sophistications of the truth. He was quite as sharp a censor of those with whom he was allied as of those to whom he was mentally opposed. He was never for a moment blind to the mistakes and misdeeds of those with whom he was politically associated. As he was in the beginning, so he continued to the end, for accusations of inconsistency did not in the least frighten him from saying that which he believed to be true. How little he was moved by a party man, is evident from the fact that scores of public characters who were nominally with him, were constantly and noisily accusing him of treason, and were just as constantly laughed at for their pains. No member of the party was so often read out of it, no newspaper jibed, and snarled so bitterly at the *Tribune* as those which called themselves Republicans. When poor, struggling, and almost without any save political friends, he said in the advertisement of the first number of this journal that he should give to the Whig Administration "a frank and cordial, but mainly and independent support, judging it always by its acts, and commending those only so far as they shall seem calculated to subserve the great end of all government—the welfare of the People." "My leading idea," he said years afterward, "was the establishment of a journal removed alike from servile partisanship on the one hand, and from gagged mincing neutrality on the other. * * * I believed there was a happy medium between these extremes—a position from which a journalist might openly and heartily advocate the principles and commend the measures of that party to which his convictions allied him, yet frankly dissent from its course on a particular question, and even denounce its candidates if they were shown to be deficient in capacity or (worse) in integrity. I felt that a journal thus loyal to its guiding conviction, yet ready to expose and condemn unworthy conduct or incidental error on the part of men attached to its party, must be far more effective, even party-wise, than though it might always be counted on to applaud or reprobate, unless or ours, as the party's prejudices or immediate interests might seem to prescribe."

The day of small beginnings went by. The journal founded by Mr. Greeley with such noble resolution, adhering to these catholic and conscientious principles, became strong and prosperous; and we ask of thousands upon thousands still living who for more than a quarter of a century have been daily observers of the *Tribune* use it, under the immediate direction or under the inspiration of Mr. Greeley, it has ever, making due allowance for human infirmity, fallen below the standard which from the first he determined upon. It was a Whig journal, but was it ever the unquestioning slave of the Whig party or the Whig leaders? It was a Republican journal, but did it ever seek to hide the faults or to extenuate the errors of the Republican leaders? When was it the creature of Mr. Greeley to take measures upon trust? When did he fear, while favoring the candidates of a Convention, to cast contempt upon so much of its platform as failed to commend itself to his head or to his heart? So well was this understood in all political circles, that the support of any party measure years ago started to be counted as a matter of course, was that when he did heartily acquiesce in any policy, his countenance had a value indeed. It was no depreciation of Mr. Greeley to be definitely astonished at the election: clined to support General Grant for re-election: those who were honored by his confidence knew that his determination had not been wanton nor made with his own nominal preferences. His own nor forced upon him by the cause committed to his success and thus fully identified in his own mind; hands were busy when he was grieving for the it was cast, he was grieving for himself; but countries flippantly uttered such a suggestion they absolutely incapable of appreciating the the nobility of his nature. He was a public creature, and had nothing so much at heart as the fidelity of his country to her professions. His soul often hardly less anxious and perturbed at crises when he was within named nor thought of for office.

There is the party man who is nothing more than a mere politician; whose days are spent in the management of intrigues, and whose nights are full of dreams of aggrandizement and of personal preferment; who thinks that no bill can be passed and no candidate elected except by stratagem; who fancies that mean and mousing ways are always best; if not noblest; who, in selecting nominees does not ask what are their qualifications or what their characters, but whether they are available; who whispers in lobbies and who guesses in conferences; who is sure that every one has his price, and that he is to be bought if only that price can be paid; who has reduced our American politics to the low level of a gambling-game, and the Presidential canvass to a something hardly better than a sharp commercial transaction. Such a man Mr. Greeley certainly was not.

There is the man of principle who recognizes party organization as to a certain extent necessary, and who accepts its means while rejecting its mastery; who regards no associate as freed from his criticism and rebuke by party affiliations; who thinks consistency a respectable but never an imperative condition; who believes an election honorably lost better for the common weal than an election dishonorably won; who may differ from his opponents and yet be willing to act with them in matters upon which there is substantial accord; who recognizes the right of no convention, of no clique, of no caucus, and of no committee, to pledge his voice and his vote in advance for measures negative or positive, to which his consciences refuses assent; who is not to be wheedled, nor bribed, nor bullied into doing what he believes to be wrong; and who denies the value of parties after their occasions have passed away. Such a man, whether as a Whig, a Republican, a Congressman, a Delegate, an Editor, Mr. Greeley certainly was. Who, as he now lies in his honored grave, would have had him different? Who of those who knew him best and loved him best would erase one jot or change, if it were possible, one tittle of his record. He was a giant beside the men who criticised him. He was purity itself compared with those who talked of his bargains and his sales. He was a journalist to whose intrigue and management were utterly unknown; and well will it be for the *Tribune* and for all other newspapers if his example shall be followed and his singleness of purpose scrupulously imitated.

**Suicide in Japan.**

It appears from recent reports that suicide is going out of fashion in Japan. A debate in the Parliament about three years ago, Oct. 8, 1869, showed that the members were not prepared to introduce any change in the law then, for three members only, in a house of 300, could be found to vote for the abolition of suicide. When a member of the two-sworded class, or Samurai, commits a crime, a message is sent that he is permitted to kill himself by disemboweling, which custom is called the *harakiri* or *seppuku*. It seems that the practice was considered so honorable that many men committed it without waiting the Imperial permission, and this was considered highly improper. The Clerk of the House had very sensibly put the question before the delegates in this manner: "It should be remarked that most two-sworded men who commit seppuku are men of parts, and with a strong sense of shame. It is needless to say that if such men repented, and, urged by an indignant sense of their errors, employed their talents industriously, they would do their country good service; but, in my opinion, death for a fault or two of doubtful character, at the same time blocks up the way of self-examination to the individual, and is at variance with the Imperial plans for the national prosperity. The question to be taken of the present reform of the Government to prohibit this practice. The members thought differently, and recorded their votes as we have said. Let us transcribe one or two speeches.

*Kaji Manizasymon*—It may seem at first sight an immoral act to die without awaiting the Judge's sentence, but this does not proceed from a contempt for authority. The commission of the seppuku is owing to the natural sense of shame being deeply rooted in the heart. It is a national custom founded on what is due to the national sense of justice, and to Japan as a nation. It may be proper to prohibit the seppuku in cases where no legal sentence has been pronounced, but if the law constituting it a punishment for two-sworded men be not maintained, the distinction between them and the common people will be obliterated.

*Kawabe Hisaya*—"A speedy death by seppuku, resulting from remorse for crime, is a means of avoiding the pain of disgrace; how can it be said to be a contempt of the criminal law? how, on the other hand, can it be styled an expiation of guilt? By death the criminal barely restores himself to his position as a human being. If he lives, he is a scoundrel; but if he dies, he, for the first time, manifests a sense of shame. To prohibit the seppuku would be to choose the public path of honor, and throw open the private path of scoundrelism."

*Sakada Hakusa*—"The seppuku has its origin in the sacred vital energy of this divine country, and is the shrine of the Japanese national spirit, (Yamato-spirit.) Unquestionably, it should not be prohibited. Its practice should be extended, and, by this means, a sense of shame fostered, and the seppuku should be made famous throughout the civilized world as an example of devotion to principle. It ought to be introduced into our criminal code as the form of capital punishment for those above the rank of Samuri."—*Chambers' Journal.*

**A Comical Duel.**

*From the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle, Dec. 18.*

One of the most satisfactory instances of obtaining satisfaction by "the Code," occurred last week between two principals years two employes of the Nimball House, named Barnard Thynne, about 25 years of age, and C. Van Valkenburge, 18 years old. There was a girl behind the scenes, and jealousy was the moving cause. Thynne teased Van, and the latter sent a challenge in the usual form. No apology would be given and the duel was resolved upon. Meanwhile a plan was arranged by the seconds and accepted by Mr. Thynne, which was to go through the regular form of using pistols loaded with powder only, leaving Van to suppose that he was going to meet in mortal combat.

In due time and form carriages containing principals, seconds, and surgeons, conveyed the party to the place of meeting. It was dusk when the toss was made, and Thynne obtained the choice. The distance agreed on was twenty paces. The principals were placed in position, and at the word fired. Thynne fell and groaned terribly. At the same time a bottle of chicken's blood was slyly smeared over him. Van was mortally scared, believing that he had killed his antagonist. The entire party returned to the hotel. Van hid in his room until the cruel jokers told him that the police were after him. Then he fled to the laundry, and afterwards hid in the cellar coal-bin. There he remained for about half an hour, when his tormentors hurried him in a half frozen condition to the railroad depot. No train was there, so he commenced to walk—at 10 o'clock at night—down the track. At a station beyond the train overtook him, and brought him to Savannah. On Friday, Colonel Nicholls, of the Screven House, received the following letter from the

SAVANNAH, Dec. 20, 1872.

DEAR MR. NICHOLLS: I arrived here this morning at 9 o'clock, and have failed to see Captain Danforth, to whom you so kindly referred me. I stopped two days at my home, twelve miles north of Macon. He brought me twenty-four miles to the M. & B. R. R. It will cause me much pain if Mr. Thynne dies, for I had almost rather been killed myself than for it to happen there. Do not blame me for defending myself. I thought it the best way to settle it, and as I could not have the cowardice to have taken the advantage of him. My conscience is clear, and though I have not the natural sense of shame being deeply rooted in the heart. It is a shame being deeply rooted in the heart. habit of saying. If I have done wrong, I hope God will in some way punish me, and not place me in the hands of men that I am not known to. * * * If you think it safe for me to remain here, and I can get a situation, I will do you all the good I possibly can for your house. I am confident of getting my old place back again in New York, if I have to leave; but I do not care to leave this State, as I claim it as a home, and feel that I have a full right to remain. I hope Mrs. Nicholls don't think I am a reckless boy, but knows otherwise; for I was cool and sober the whole day as ever. From your most obedient, C. M. V.

What has since become of the poor dupe we have not ascertained.

**Generous Deed.**

*From the Des Moines (Iowa) Register.*

All the way from Chicago and, of course, a relic of the fire, comes a tale of an Iowa man's generosity. When the great conflagration swept away the business part of the city of the Lakes, Rev. A. P. Hanson, editor of the *New Covenant*, was one of the sufferers. His office was entirely destroyed, and he was in debts to Mr. J. E. Graves, of Dubuque, for a large part of the money with which the material had been purchased. The first mail train from Dubuque brought a letter from Mr. Graves, enclosing Mr. Hanson's note, amounting to $1,700. The communication stated that although Mr. H. had just been the victim of one fire, it would be a good thing for him to make another one big enough to burn that note. There was some practical generosity worth emulating. The old load thus lifted left Mr. Hanson free to renew the publication of the *Covenant*, although for a few months readers of that excellent journal are probably aware of the fact that for its continued existence they are in a large degree indebted to the kindness of Mr. Graves. These facts we get from Mr. Hanson himself.

**The New Prussian Peers.**

The following are the names of the new Peers who have been created in Prussia: Generals Herwarth, Von Bittenfeld, Steinmetz, Von Puchler, Von Hellefeld, and Stosch; Minister Freiherr Von der Heydt Falcon; Diplomatists Herr Von Balan, Baron Magnus, and Herr Von Ichmann; Herr Fleck, Military Auditor General; Herr Von Bardeleben, Chief President; Under-Secretaries of State Seiffer and Bitter, President Bradbury; Herr Schumann, Chief Director of Taxes; Herr Von Philippsborn, Ministerial Director; Herr Von Dechend, President of the Directors of the Bank of Prussia; Herr Von Guenther, President of the Maritime Institution of Commerce; Dr. Herrich, Vice President of the Supreme Court; Dr. Weyer, Chief Procurator General; and Herr Stephan Director of the Postal service. The remainder of the new Peers are large landed proprietors.

## A SPANISH DON JUAN.

*From the New York World.*

Our idea of the ideal Don Juan, the dashing cavalier and the general lover of women, is drawn from French sources. He is there surrounded by a halo of music, gallantries, and tender speeches. But quite different from this is the Spanish version of the amiable scapegrace. He is depicted as a man handsome and fascinating, of course, but terrible in his revenges and jealousies, invested with the mentst attributes of a fiend, and whose rapier is seldom drawn but to become ensanguined with the life-blood of a rival's heart His name in the Spanish legend is Don Juan de Magnara, and in a play entitled "Don Juan Tenorio" the poet Jose Zorilla has embalmed his loves and his crimes. This play enjoys a vast popularity in Spain, and, what is remarkable, it is each year, at the approach of All Saints' Day, regularly brought out at several of the theatres at Madrid, and is produced in like manner in all the cities of Spain, and probably in those of the colonies of that country. The fact of this custom is one of those mysteries which remain unexplained, and no one in Madrid or elsewhere in Spain has ever been found to explain it. But one reason may be given to account for its revival at the season of this special festival of the Church, and this is that in the course of the many tableaux of its fantastico-religious plot a scene is put upon the stage representing a cemetery.

The legend of Don Juan de Magnara, from which Zorilla's play is drawn, is a gloomy and forbidding one. In the drama of "Don Juan Tenorio" he is represented as an abductor of women. He is a coward, too, for before his death he is depicted as trembling like a leaf. He repents, but only through fear; but, nevertheless, as he has humiliated himself before God, all his faults are forgiven him, and he even becomes after death the celestial husband of Inez, whom he has sent to the grave, and whose father and brother he has slain. This is the heroic and excellent type of the Don Juan of the Spanish drama, and gives up the ghost in the odor of sanctity and amid the applause of the gallerites!

In the chapel of the Charity Hospital at Seville, side by side with the majestic paintings of Murillo, are two pictures by the painter Valdes Leal, which have been inspired by the dismal legend of the bloody Don Juan of tradition. They are *chefs d'œuvre*, and are dreadful in the completeness of their graphic details. One represents a skeleton fumbling rich draperies and flashing armor with its bony feet; the other the interior of a vault where are seen two coffins. The first of these coffins contains the corpse of a Bishop in a condition of decomposition as far advanced that the worms crawl upon the shreds of lint dead. In the second coffin is the body of a cavalier, shrouded in a cloak embroidered with the cross of the military Order of Calatrava, and in whose pale features are recognized the lineaments of him who was once Don Juan de Magnara. So fearful is the effect produced by these paintings, it is said, that gazers upon them, on leaving the chapel, feel a cold chill creeping over them. The conviction is felt that the artist wished to transfer a thought to the canvas, and the execution of the work is such that a sensation is produced as though the lookers-on were breathing the atmosphere of a sepulchre.

So much for these artistic memorials of that Don Juan of Spanish tradition, the story of whose adventures and career has been for centuries a theme of recital in Seville. It was in Seville that this man of awful and bloody memory dwelt. In a sombre and winding alley of that city—and this alley is still there to witness if the tradition lies—in which, after dark, a taper lighted by pious hands throws its flickering light at the feet of the image of Our Lady of the Disinherited, is placed the scene of the legend of Don Juan de Magnara. The name of this alley, given to it in commemoration of the strange event which has made it memorable in the city of Seville, is the Street of the Coffin. One night, so runs the tale, a cavalier was making his way through this uninviting locality. His spurs jingled upon the earth, hardened by the sun of an implacable summer; his velvet cloak gathered up under his left arm, left free the right hand, in which was tightly clasped an unsheathed sword. This man was Don Juan Magnara, he whom no woman could look upon with indifference, and at the mention of whose name mothers of fair daughters involuntarily signed themselves with the sign of the cross.

Suddenly the gloomy alley was invaded by another figure, also a cavalier. The noise of his footfalls was followed by a clashing of swords, and then by a groan. Then, under the image of the virgin, Don Juan paused to wipe his sword-stained blade. In this interval the bell of the clock of the Giralda tolls midnight, and, as if the tolling of this bell were a signal, the sound of a funeral chant is heard. The dark street becomes lighted up, and Don Juan perceives, advancing toward him, a long train of hooded penitents, bearing torches and preceding a coffin. "Good people, whom bear you to the tomb?" asks the murderer. The penitent whom he addresses lifts his hood, exhibiting the deathless head of a skeleton, and with his finger points to the coffin; the second penitent uncovers likewise, and displays the pale face of Elvira, who had dies of grief, and in those whom he questions in turn Don Juan recognizes the features of his many victims.

But Don Juan is anxious to know who is he that lies in the coffin. Mad with rage, he places his right upon his sword as if about to draw it. "Who is in that coffin?" he exclaims to a penitent. "The body of the very high and very puissant Senor Don Juan de Magnara," replies the penitent with a sepulchral voice. Don Juan rushes to the coffin, violently tears away the cloth which covers it, and in the pale corpse which rises from its reclining position and says to him "Repent!" he recognizes his own features. Then the funeral train, a moment arrested in its progress, resumes its march and slowly disappears, while Don Juan remains overwhelmed in a gloomy reverie. He still hears ringing in his ears the injunction of the corpse, "Repent!" and it comes to him like an echo of his finally aroused conscience; and while the first pale light of the dawn falls upon the spire of La Giralda, giving to it a purplish hue, he crosses the street with hasty strides until he reaches the gates of a convent at which he knocks and, when they are opened to him, enters.

Some years after this recorded scene—to the disbelism and gloomy horror of which even the annals of Spanish romance, fruitful as they are in mystery, would find it difficult to present a parallel—Bernardo Simon de Perada, a master in architectural works, laid the first stone of the Charity Hospital of Seville. Among the most renowned artists of Andalusia who came to Seville to aid in the construction and in the decoration of this hospital were Murillo and Valdes Leal. This convent was the product of the remorse and munificence of Don Juan de Magnara, for he had not waited for death to surprise him before repentence. He had repented with all the sincerity of his soul, and, fleeing from the world's vanities, he had consecrated his last days to the practice of the most austere virtues.

**An Interesting Document.**

We find the following in the Winsted (Ct.) *Herald's* Goshen correspondence:

Last week a Brooklyn gentleman, who was tracing the title to a piece of land in Bath County, Va., belonging to his mother, lying on both sides of "Cow Pasture River," and containing 300,000 acres, called on me to examine more than two bushels of papers, given to me a few years ago by a lady in Hillhouse avenue, New Haven; the papers having been left by her uncle, Mr. Wm. Hillhouse, a New Haven lawyer, at his death. We found one paper dated May 6, 1832 (40 years old), filed

PETITION AGAINST THE RAILROAD.

*To the Honorable General Assembly now convened at New Haven:*

The subscribers remonstrate against granting the prayer of petition brought to this Assembly by James Brewster and others, for the following reasons:

1. The entertainment of the subject of railroads has been much greater than any experience of their utility will warrant, as is common with new inventions, as it has already been found that they cannot be beneficially applied as extensively as the interested and exaggerated accounts of them have heretofore led the people to expect.

2. The difficulty and expense of constructing them, and of keeping them in repair, are much greater than has been represented.

3. The danger to life which arises from the extensive use of them, from their inability to get out of repair, is much more serious and alarming than has been supposed.

It is a long document, and says that the growth and prosperity of Hamden, Cheshire, Southington, Farmington, Hartford, Wethersford, Middletown, Durham, New Haven and other places would be injured, and that it would take the freight from the Farmington Canal, "and if carried north above Hartford, as it eventually would be, it would draw into its vortex, from the Connecticut River and the canal, such share of the transportation as would be ruinous to those expensive improvements." It would bring the business into the outskirts of New Haven, and would injure Yale College, Long Wharf, and the central part of the city, besides destroying the turnpikes and stage routes in the State.

**A Singular Divorce Case.**

A singular suit for divorce is now pending before a Baltimore Court, which excites great interest in the Monument City, on account of the standing of the parties concerned. The plaintiff in the case is the husband, who states that in July, 1871, he was invited to the house of his enforced father-in-law by that gentleman, who, upon getting him there, was so anxious for an immediate marriage between his daughter and the plaintiff that he held the latter a prisoner, by threatening his life, while the clergyman who had been provided performed the ceremony. The plaintiff declares that, to all his affirmative responses during the ceremony, he added the proviso, "If this is legal," and he now asks that the marriage may be declared null and void.

**A Woman's Love.**

Every one must have noticed the great difference, as a general thing, between the conduct of the young betrothed man and the young betrothed woman. He, the braver and stronger of the two, is utterly confused and bashful, and seeks to make a secret of the fact. She, on the contrary, tries to parade it, assumes a certain air of proprietorship over him, and offers to her friends little delicate confidences as to how nice it is to be engaged, and how dreadfully jealous he is if she looks at any one else.

The cause of this is just one thing; the man is in love; the girl is not.

I have studied human nature. I have looked into the depths of hearts. I have made man and woman the study of my life, and I aver that the girl in love is rarer than a black rose. She simply has for her lover exactly the feeling that the mother has for her baby. She has an anxious desire to see to him for life, to make sure that he is comfortable, that his buttons are all right, and that the food is as it ought to be. She understands that he is in love with her, and rejoices in this knowledge. The idea of losing his love is madness to her, but of herself she does not understand it.

A woman who is not selfish, and greedy, and mean, who does not smile on any one who can give her fine clothes and a grand establishment, overflows with the mother-feeling all her life. She expends it on her dolls in childhood, on her poodle, or her kitten, or her canary afterward, and when the time comes, on her lover. Many a man would lose a great deal of his conceit and vanity if he knew just how the girl whom he supposed to be in love with him really felt. She also would be surprised to hear that she was not in love at all, but only delighted to have some one in love with her, and in a measure awakened to the knowledge of that love which she will some day give her children. It is the best sort of love, too, and when a man's wife really loves him as his mother used to love him, she makes him happy.

But I think it is time that some one who knows the truth should tell it. A good woman's love is something to be happy in—not the fleeting gallantry that man calls by that name, but a pure and high affection, and with so much of the motherly and protecting in it, that I have often heard a little eighteen-year-old woman say of a six-footer of two hundred pounds weight, and a Brigadier General to boot:

"Oh, isn't he a darling, canning little thing? Just as sweet as sugar!"—*Aunt Mary, in the Ledger.*

**The Centre of Gravity of the Population.**

*To the Editor of the Nation:*

SIR: I notice an article in the *Nation* of Nov. 21, entitled "A Sectional Review of the Late Canvass," in which this sentence occurs: "The centre of gravity of the population has not, we believe, crossed the great Appalachian chain."

I think you are in error. I had occasion to consider that question a year since, and at my request Professor Hilgard, of the Coast Survey, made a series of calculations to ascertain the centre of gravity of the population, as shown by each of the last four censuses. He supposes a plate of the exact shape and size of the United States, exclusive of Alaska, loaded with the actual population, and ascertains the point on which it would balance.

By this process he found that, in 1840, the centre of gravity of the population was at a point in Virginia near the eastern foot of the Appalachian chain and near the parallel of 39 deg. north latitude.

In 1850 that centre had moved westward 57 miles across the mountains, to a point nearly south of Parkersburg, Va.

In 1860, it had moved westward 82 miles to a point nearly south of Chillicothe, Ohio.

In 1870, it had reached a point near Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio, about 45 miles northeast of Cincinnati.

In no case had it widely departed from the 39th parallel.

If the same rate be maintained during the next three decades, which I doubt, it will fall in the neighborhood of Bloomington, Ind., by 1900.

Professor Hilgard also found that a line drawn from Lake Erie, at the northeastern corner of Ohio, to Pensacola, in Florida, would divide the population of the United States, as it stood in 1870, into two equal parts. This line is nearly parallel to the line of the Atlantic coast.

From these calculations it will appear that both the "centre of gravity" and the line that divides the population in half, are more than 150 miles west of the Appalachian chain. Very truly yours, J. A. GARFIELD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 7, 1872.

**Private Correspondence.**

The following letter from a probable future President to his sister, which is now going the rounds of the newspapers, is classified as an "Epistolatory Effort:"

DEAR SUE: The horses has all got the epigramic very badly. Us boys had so much fun the other day! Little Frank's hobby-horse had glue runnin' out of his nose, so we knew he had it, and we took him into the bath-room and washed him off with some hot water, wrapped his legs up in hot water, and burned sulphur matches under his throat, and swinged his mane off, and the paint came off his legs, and the glue all come together with his hair, and he looks more like a Shanghai than a horse. Wasn't it jolly? Then the matches put us in mind of havin' a Boston fire, so we coaxed sister Sadie to give us her box of Swiss bosses you brought her from Urip; and we set 'em up and bombed 'em off, and let her rip. The town was illuminated, and the engines came, and Sadie's dolls in for dead bodies, and then saved the arms and legs for trofys.

But you bet we got scared when the flames went so high that we thought the house was on fire, and Jim Blain let the water run all over the floor, and down the kitchen on the cook's head, and she thought the pipes had busted, and run for a man to fix 'em, so ma caught us in there, and the boys run home, but I got a thrashing. It didn't hurt much, 'cause I had on thick clothes. Your Frank is in pants. He went in last Sunday. I've got a new girl, I don't like Jennie Baird any more, or I guess she don't like me any more, 'cause when I give her a handful of peanuts she throwed 'em in my face, and I expect Jim Blain told her I was stuck on her, but I only like Annie, 'cause she's sandy store, and I get all the candy I want for nothin'.

Your affectionate brother, CHARLIE.

P. S.—Please bring me a GOAT.

**The Ant Lion.**

In a late number of the *American Naturalist*, Mr. J. H. Emerton describes at length the peculiar habits and structure of the ant lion (*Myrmeleo immaculatus*). It appears that this ravenous little insect is endowed by nature with superior intelligence, and displays great skill and cunning in trapping and securing of its prey. Having determined upon a suitable site, generally a clear sandy space under the shade of some shrub or bush, it begins the construction of a miniature pitfall by first throwing its long jaws and flat head underneath the grains of sand, and then by a sudden upward jerk tossing them several inches beyond the edge of the pit. This operation is repeated until a funnel-shaped hole is excavated, the sides of which are so steep as the shifting nature of the sand will allow.

When completed, the ingenious little builder conceals his body at the bottom, leaving only the extended jaws exposed. Here he awaits patiently until the unconscious victim, generally some smaller insect, approaches the edge of the ambuscade, when the disturbance of the sand above warns the watcher below, and he begins to toss up the earth from beneath the unwary victim's heels, thus undermining the latter, and causing the sand on the shelving sides to slide down toward the centre, bearing with it the prey to within reach of the extended jaws. The lower sides of these are provided with tubular channels, through which it exists to convey the blood of the victim to the mouth of the captor. After sucking the body dry, the carcass is tossed beyond the limits of the pit, which is at once repaired, and made ready for the approach of a second visitor.

**Courage of the Canada Goose.**

During the breeding season the gander displays his courage to the greatest advantage. Audubon gives the following account of his personal experience in this particular: "I know a male," says that writer, "that appeared larger than usual, and of which all the lower parts were of a rich cream color. I returned three years in succession to a large pond a few miles from the mouth of the Green River, in Kentucky, and whenever I visited the spot it seemed to look at me with utter contempt. If while standing in a stately attitude until I reached within a few feet of the nest, it were suddenly lowering his head and shaking it, as if it was dislocated from the neck, it would open its wings and launch into the air, flying directly at me. So daring was this brave fellow that in two instances he struck me a blow with one of his wings on the right ar

## SANGUINARY AFFRAY.

### Desperate Encounter Between Two Colored Men.

### The Dining-Room of a Hotel the Scene of the Occurrence.

### One of the Men Horribly Carved With a Razor.

A sanguinary affray took place yesterday in the Avenue House, at the corner of Twenty-second street and Wabash avenue. A colored man named Robert Hill, who officiated in the kitchen in the capacity of meat cook, got up in the morning in a savage state of mind, and threatened that he "would kill two niggers before night." He conducted himself in such an outrageous fashion that, to avoid trouble, Mr. Danolds, the proprietor, told his partner, Mr. Clark, to employ a substitute immediately, and discharge the offender. Mr. Clark went out for that purpose, about 11 o'clock, and Mr. Danolds was absent from the house on other business. Another colored man named John Anderson, who had been threatened in the morning by Hill, was in the dining-room engaged with his cotemporaries laying the table for the Christmas dinner. Hill entered the room, armed with a cleaver, which he brandished around like an Indian with a tomahawk, and was looking around for his intended victim. Anderson saw him enter, and knew what he wanted. Hill did not observe Anderson, who was just inside the door, in the shadow of the stove. Determined that Hill should not have him at a disadvantage, he precipitated the encounter by grasping Hill around the waist, at the same time holding up the hand which grasped the cleaver. They fell, and the next thing that was known, Hill was bleeding freely from several wounds. No one seemed to know what instrument was used to inflict the cuts, which were deep, long, and cleanly done. The back was gashed a distance of fifteen inches from the right shoulder-blade, parallel to the spine, and two or three inches from it. The muscles were severed, and the flesh lay over on each side of the cut. Another gash was bleeding near the left shoulder-blade. This was six inches long. There were also two wounds on the top of the head, probably made with the same weapon, whatever it was. One of these cuts was four inches long, and the other two. They penetrated the skull. The occurrence occupied but a short period, the result being that Anderson escaped unhurt, while Hill, who proposed to kill Anderson, was almost dead himself. One of the waiters took the cleaver from Hill, and he walked down to the kitchen, and, arming himself with a murderous butcher knife, came up stairs again in search of Anderson, whose existence he vowed he would terminate. Rapid loss of blood caused him to fall insensible on the floor. He was then disarmed, and Dr. C. S. Eldridge, one of the guests of the house, examined his injuries. The wounds were dressed, and he was taken to the County Hospital, where he now lies in a precarious condition. His recovery is, to say the least, uncertain. Anderson was arrested.

The strangest part of the affair is that no one seems to know what weapon was used by Anderson, but the character of the wounds indicate that it was a razor or a sharp pocket knife. It is supposed that, anticipating an attack by Hill, he made arrangements to defend himself. Anderson, who is a young man of about 20, bore an excellent character in the house, and was regarded by the proprietor and guests as one of the most accomplished of waiters. Hill, on the other hand, is described as ugly at times, and particularly unconditional when under the influence of liquor. He is supposed to have been drinking early in the morning.

The affair did not create much excitement in the hotel. The hour was fortunate. There were no ladies in the dining-room. The proprietors regret that such an unfortunate event should have taken place in their house, but they could not help it. Another cook was put in Hill's place, and the Christmas dinner did suffer by his absence.

## THE CITY IN BRIEF.

A small fire occurred yesterday afternoon at No. 460 South Clinton street, in a building occupied by John Lyman. The loss was slight, and fully covered by insurance.

Mrs. Kate N. Doggett will give her second lecture on Art before the Chicago Christian Union in the North Side Rooms, No. 756 Michigan avenue, this evening, at 7½ o'clock.

M. B. Spaulding, Esq. of Nash, Spaulding & Co., Boston, we notice by the Boston papers, has connected himself with the Atlas Bank of Boston, in the capacity of Director. He will be remembered to Chicago grocery merchants as their friend and adviser at the time of our great fire.

McVicker's Theatre last evening contained the largest audience that ever assembled within its walls. Every seat was occupied, and the lobby was crowded, even packed, with "standees." Miss Cushman's engagement is the grand dramatic event of the season.

One of our leading Wabash avenue jewelry houses sold $15,000 worth of goods on Tuesday afternoon and evening. A well-known merchant purchased a $2,000 diamond set for his wife, and another gentleman invested $1,200 in similar property.

Between 7 and 9 o'clock, last evening, nearly, if not quite, a thousand amusement-seekers were turned away from Hooley's Opera House for want of room to accommodate them. The "Party by the Name of Johnson" is proving a great card for the enterprising manager of this handsome little theatre.

The alarm from Box 367, yesterday noon, was occasioned by a fire breaking out in the shanty, No. 148 Sampson street, owned and occupied by Mrs. Nolan. The house was damaged to the extent of $100; no insurance. The flames communicated to a two-story cottage adjoining, burning off the roof, and otherwise injuring the property to the extent of $200; fully covered by insurance in the Andes Company. The fire originated from a defective flue.

Yesterday evening about 6 o'clock, a sleigh, containing a lady and gentleman, was overturned in front of THE TRIBUNE office, by a pile of frozen snow, the occupants being set upon the icy ground in a mixed condition. The horse did not attempt to run, but seemed intent on rendering his unfortunate owners all the assistance in his power. The sleigh was soon righted, and the "ditched" occupants placed therein, without having suffered any serious injury.

## THE THERMOMETER AT ONARGA.

ONARGA, Dec. 24, 1872.

*To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:*

SIR: It is possible that the enclosed statements in regard to the temperature at this locality may be of interest to some of your readers. As there is very little wind, and the days and nights are bright and clear, it is believed there is no unusual suffering among the people. I am pleased with the independent position that you have taken in THE TRIBUNE. Very respectfully, WM. F. PIERSON.

| | Below. |
|---|---|
| Dec. 23—10 o'clock p. m. | 23 |
| 10½ o'clock p. m. | 23 |
| 11 o'clock p. m. | 20 |
| Dec. 24—7 o'clock A. M. | 32 |
| 9 o'clock A. M. | 22 |
| 11 o'clock A. M. | 13 |

## ENGLISH HOSPITALITY.

*To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:*

SIR: Please allow me through your columns to call the attention of our citizens to an act of sympathy and kindness on the part of Mr. Eberle, the proprietor of the Royal Hotel, Liverpool, England, as exhibited to me, a total stranger, simply because I was one of the afflicted of Chicago in the great fire of Oct. 9, 1871. I was in London at the time, and as soon as I could get off, I proceeded to Liverpool on Friday following the fire. My trunks were marked in full with my name and residence—Chicago. I was shown to a very elegant suite of rooms in a few moments, rather more costly than I was disposed to take, but as it was only one night I had to remain, I thought I would retain them. We were served with a sumptuous dinner, and also an elegant breakfast in the morning. When I called at the office to pay my bill, I was informed that there was none. Mr. Eberle requested me to accept his hospitality—he could not take money from any citizen of afflicted Chicago. When on board the good ship China, I found in my state-room a large box of fruits, consisting of oranges, apples, grapes, pears, &c., also the gift of Mr. Eberle, to my wife. We are totally unknown, and I feel it now a duty to acknowledge on behalf of Chicago the liberality of this gentleman. To our citizens who go abroad, I would most heartily commend the good Samaritan Eberle of the Royal Hotel, Liverpool. Respectfully yours,

GEORGE E. STANTON.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26, 1872.

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT EVANSTON.

### How the Methodist, Presbyterian, and Congregational People Enjoyed Themselves.

### The Churches Brilliantly Decorated and Illuminated—Tableaux, Recitations, Distribution of Gifts, Etc.

It was a very joyful Christmas Eve as three of the churches in Evanston. At the M. E. Church the pillars and chandeliers were neatly decorated with evergreens. Over the entrance door was an illuminated welcome, and as you entered the edifice this motto, in golden letters, and trimmed with evergreen, greeted your eyes: "God loveth a cheerful giver." On your right the brightly-illuminated Christmas Tree was to be seen. The festival opened with prayer by the pastor, Dr. M. C. Briggs, and the singing of the "Ascension Hymn" by the Sunday School choir; after which a tableau, entitled the "First Knitting Lesson," was produced. Next on the programme was the recitation of the little piece, "Hang up the baby's stocking," by Miss Maude Wyckoff, a little girl 5 years old. This was by far the most pleasing and entertaining performance of the evening. After the song entitled "Santa Claus," was sung by four little girls, Master Freddie Sewell delivered a nice little speech. There were several more tableaux, and one dialogue, during the evening. One of the tableaux represented Santa Claus trying to get a doll about as large as a bushel basket into a little child's stocking. This performance occasioned much laughter. Baskets containing packages of candy, nuts, cake, and pop-corn were then passed around among the members of the Sunday School. As the exercises were about to close, Mrs. Gillespie, the Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School, stepped upon the platform, and, in a very appropriate speech, presented Mr. Wm. T. Shepherd, who has been the faithful Superintendent of the School for the past three years, with a very handsome gold watch. On the case was engraved "Presented to Wm. A. Shepherd, by the Evanston M. E. Church and Sunday School." Many gifts were brought by the good people of the church, for the children at the County Poor-House. This was done to teach the pleasure of giving as well as of receiving.

AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

a most novel and beautiful Christmas festival was given by the Sabbath School of the Presbyterian Church on Christmas Eve. The Church trimming was most artistic, and far surpassed the elaborate holiday decorations that this Society have usually put on. The event seemed to be made a real occasion of rejoicing over the birth of our Savior. For the frolicking persecution of a Santa Claus, was substituted a beautiful representation of the "Advention of the Shepherds," by sixteen young ladies, dressed as Oriental shepherdesses. The singing and recitations by these, and the responses from a quartette choir, had a beautiful effect, being impressive to young and old of the sweet story of the Star of Bethlehem—the anthems of angelic hosts and the advention of the shepherds. At the proper moment a gas-lit star in its brightness shone on the Christmas Tree, which was already brilliantly illuminated with tapers, displaying the rich profusion of gifts provided for scholars and teachers. Soon the scene was changed to one of kindly mirth and gladness, and all began to realize a Merry Christmas indeed. Many gifts were taken by this society than by the others, their evergreens being brought from the State of Maine, and it was, therefore, a much more brilliant success.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

As announced in Monday's TRIBUNE, "Mother Goose's Melodies" were produced by several members of the Congregational Church on Christmas Eve. Mrs. H. Blatchford assumed the part of "Mother Goose," and her large family was composed of Messrs. Powers, Brown, Bradley, and Carpenter; Misses. Powers, White, Thompson, and several others. The melodies were produced in a very entertaining manner; but the best feature of the evening's entertainment in this festival was that of the "Babes in the Woods." Messrs. H. G. Powers and E. L. Brown took the part of the "babes." They were all covered with leaves, and made two good-sized babies. At the close of the literary the sweetmeats were very liberally distributed.

ONE DRAWBACK

to each of the three festivals was the being left in utter darkness for the space of ten or fifteen minutes in the middle of the entertainments by the giving out of the supply of gas throughout the entire village. The late cold weather made it almost impossible for our new gas company to manufacture at all.

The Baptist Society are to have their Christmas festival on Friday evening.

## AN ELEGANT AFFAIR.

### Grand Jewish Ball at Standard Hall Last Evening—Some of the Notable Toilets.

Standard Hall, after being the theatre of a performance such as the world never before witnessed, where the play was realistic and the performers numbered nearly 75,000; after resounding with the mirth created by Charley Wyndham, Eccles, John Dillon, the Lingards, and a host of others, has again reverted to its original purposes, and was, last evening, the scene of a brilliant assemblage. Our Israelitish fellow-citizens celebrated Christmas in Standard Hall with a ball, and a most brilliant affair it was. There was an assemblage of the daughters of Israel present that fully vindicated their claim to being the handsomest women in the world. The richest of complexions and most lustrous of eyes, glowing with the animation consequent upon the exercise of dancing, rendered the picture one especially lovely to behold.

Among the toilettes noticed were the following:

A dress of pink silk, with lace over-dress very *louffant*, had several raffles around the train. The lady wore diamonds and pearls for ornaments.

A white tulle dress was trimmed with garlands of roses; coiffure a la Josephine.

A lady in blue satin wore white flowers in her hair and a Spanish comb. The over-dress was looped with white flowers.

Another lady wore a dress of black velvet, without any over-dress. The bodice was trimmed with white lace decolletes.

A white silk, trimmed with scarlet, was in harmony with the rich complexion of the wearer.

An elegant supper was served at midnight, but dancing was continued until a late hour this morning.

## COAL.

*To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:*

SIR: It is a losing business to manufacture anything by steam in Chicago, and will be until coal is as cheap here as at other places. Our manufacturers must select a good coal-field, as near as can be found to this city, take stock, and build a railroad to it on an air-line.

Chapin & Gore.

These gentlemen, on Tuesday, inaugurated another branch of their great house—this time at No. 121 South Clark, between Washington and Madison streets. Mr. M. D. Boardman, for a long time past in the employ of the firm, will have charge of the new store, which is certain to become as popular a resort as the present establishment, which, under the careful and judicious management of Messrs. Chapin & Gore, has become one of the institutions of New Chicago. The new branch house is fitted up in the most elegant manner, and stocked with the finest goods in the market, including the justly celebrated "hand-made, copper-distilled sour mash, the best in the world, gentlemen, as fine as silk."

## CHRISTMAS IN CHICAGO.

### Happiness and Good Will All Over the City.

### The Churches, Theatres, and Saloons Well Patronized.

### Plenty of Presents for the Little Ones, and Consequent Joy Among Parents.

Everybody is aware that Christmas is past, but they can reconcile themselves with the knowledge that there will be another holiday next year, if nothing happens. It is probably as well that there is an interval of a year between yesterday and next Christmas. A perpetual session of Christmas would be awful—perpetual plum-pudding, roast turkey, champagne, egg-nog, &c., would ruin the digestion and make dyspepsia epidemic. There would be no quarrelling, husbands and wives would live in harmony, mothers-in-law would be on a constant visit, and feel bound to behave themselves; human nature generally would be in the same quiet, insipid condition as before the Fall, and there would not be the fun and excitement of an occasional row. No, it is just as well that Christmas has gone,—good-bye Christmas; farewell, adieu, the best of friends must part, as the rodent remarked to his tail when he left it in the trap.

Before utterly dismissing Christmas, it may be said that the day was fine in this part of the foot-stool; the weather moderated in the morning, and, though the sun hid his face, and snow threatened to fall in the afternoon, there was nothing to deter the average man or woman from going out to places of amusement, to church, or elsewhere. The theatres were well patronized, and the services in the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches were unusually interesting to the crowded congregations that attended to do honor to the natal day of the Savior. A majority of the population did not go to church,—a majority seldom do,—but indulged themselves according to their tastes and money. Some drank hot-scotches, hot rums, and raw whiskey, the better part of the day, and the toast of "here's to all your hair coming off" was honored frequently enough to cause half the scalps in the city to be barefooted this morning. Some went to their sweethearts, it being a day of reconciliation, and many a hitch in the course of true love was relegated to the past, hostilities were suspended, peace proclaimed, and everything made serene. The number of kisses exchanged was 109,814, by actual count. It is a good and pleasant thing for brethren to dwell together in unity. The lovers had not it all to themselves, by any means. The old folks were gladdened by the sight of their children around the family board, and many a wanderer from the domestic fold returned from afar to spend the day among those who loved and were loved. The children were happy,—we hope they were all happy, every one; they received presents, Santa Claus deposited his gifts, and flew away out of sight for another year.

There were some, of course, there always are, to whom the day brought no joy, but memories bitter by contrast of other Christmases in the past, when they were better off in this world's goods, or when some lost one was living. But sorrows are part of the lot of man. There is no sweet without some bitter. It is so, and though we may repine, and think it tough, we must grin and bear it. We hope anybody, except it to a slash-rope, as *el.* (of the kind), who was alive yesterday will be alive next Christmas, but the probabilities are against the realization of such a hope. Such is life.

The city was very quiet, business being generally suspended. There was comparatively little drunkenness. In the various public and charitable institutions delicacies were served up to the inmates, and joy reached, not into the stomach, to many a heart. It is possible to continue writing in this strain for a week, but that would be New Year's, so we won't say anything about it. "Sufficient unto the day," etc.

## PERSONAL.

General J. S. Harny, of Iowa, was at the Tremont yesterday.

Robert E. Osborne, Esq., of London, Eng., was at the Sherman yesterday.

Rev. Sheldon Jackson, of Denver, Colorado, was in the city yesterday.

Dr. D. D. Wright, Surgeon General of the Great Western Railroad of Canada, was at the Tremont yesterday.

A Mr. Norris, of this city, was slightly injured by an accident, which happened on the Indianapolis, Peru & Chicago Railroad, on Tuesday night.

O. D. Frary and wife, Miss Abbie Kendall, Miss Ada Frary, C. W. Reid, George W. Robinson, compose a bridal party at the Gardner yesterday.

There were five bridal parties at the Gardner yesterday, which may be received as evidence that the matrimonial market is little affected by the severity of the weather.

The following were among the arrivals at the Tremont yesterday: M. J. Thompson, A. Stafford, New York; D. L. Filer and family, Milwaukee; T. S. Avery, Urbana; L. T. Simmons, Cincinnati; D. M. Hunter, Newport, Ky.; J. H. Anderson, Cheyenne.

The following were registered at the Sherman yesterday: J. W. Sanborn, Kansas City; B. T. Greenewald, Philadelphia; H. C. Baker, Portland; M. G. Blair, Pittsburgh; W. R. Clark, Toledo; C. S. Temple, Bloomington; W. C. Wyman, Boston; L. E. Cropsy, Lincoln, Neb.

Wallace, the artist, who as a caricaturist is second only to Nast, has been engaged by the *Land Owner*, which, by the way, has become an "illustrated journal," to make drawings for its pages. His efforts, as shown in the last issue of that paper, are in every respect worthy of his fame.

The following were registered at the Gardner yesterday: C. Ticknor, Vermont; W. H. Parsons, Coldwater, Mich.; A. E. Jones, Cleveland; E. A. Smith, Texas; H. Howard, New York; Lewis Hall, San Francisco; J. W. Bird and wife, Menominee, Wis.; Samuel D. Hastings and wife, Green Bay.

Christmas Eve was celebrated at Christ Church in a very attractive manner. Santa Claus presided, dressed in his most attractive robes, heavily loaded with toys and trinkets. He distributed presents to young and old alike, and delighted everybody present with his generosity and oddity of manner.

The following were among the arrivals at the Briggs yesterday: R. R. Durkee, Salt Lake City; W. W. Butterfield, Houghton, Mich.; H. B. Sherman, Toledo, O.; T. H. Buxton, Warsaw, N. Y.; J. N. Rea, Pittsburgh, Pa.; S. S. Herrick, New York; J. S. Waters, Sioux City; R. Marshall, St. Paul; John Curry, New Hampshire; James C. Wyatt, Leavenworth, Kan.; C. M. Foster, Iowa.

Mr. J. J. Gore was yesterday the recipient of an elegant Christmas present, in the shape of a beautiful crayon sketch, illustrative of a recent occurrence, with the circumstances of which the Chicago public are familiar. Mr. G. is thinking of giving Wallace, the artist, a commission to reproduce the sketch in oil, and place the work in his extensive gallery. Meanwhile, Mr. Gore will be happy to show the drawing now in his possession to his friends, and explain "the situation" to strangers.

### Duplicates of Rare Works.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* contributes the following to that paper:

It is hardly safe for the owner of a rare work to make too sure that no duplicate exists of it. One of the most eminent numismatists in London came into possession of a singular and highly valuable coin, of which he felt certain that no duplicate existed. Wishing to surprise his brother numismatists, and have them rejoice with him upon so rare a possession, he invited a dozen of them to dinner, and when the cloth was removed he brought out his coin. Great were the delight and the congratulations as the coin passed round, and one after another examined it. But presently the coin disappeared, no one could tell how. At first it was thought that some one had concealed it as a jest, and there was no alarm, but as time went on and the coin was not forthcoming, some of the guests intimated that the joke was being carried too far. Still it did not appear. Whereon a gentleman present said the loss was so serious that, unpleasant as the suggestion was, he must insist that the individuals present should submit to being searched. All were eager to have this done, with the exception of one eminent man, who declared that he would not submit to such an insult as a search, and walked out of the house, leaving the company convinced that he was the thief. Next day the possessor of the rare coin visited the gentleman who declined being searched, and with profuse apologies for the affair, announced that the missing coin had been found, caught in the fringe of a hearth rug. Whereupon the numismatist who had left the room said: "I had in my pocket the duplicate of your coin. I took it with me thinking to astonish you, but when I found you had invited us to dinner to display the same coin, I had not the heart to say I had got just like it. But, had I been searched, it would have been discovered on me."

## TERRORS OF THE SEA.

### Wreck of the Ship Allan, of Glasgow —Rescue of the Crew by the Adriatic.

*From the New York Times, Dec. 23.*

On the 6th inst. the steamship Adriatic, of the White Star line, left Liverpool for this port, having on board fifty saloon and 148 steerage passengers. The Adriatic encountered unusually severe weather, and was compelled during the first four or five days to buffet her way against head winds and a heavy sea. On the sixth day out, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, while in latitude 49 degrees 39 minutes north, and longitude 36 degrees 50 minutes west, and in the midst of a terrific gale, the steamer became partially disabled by the loss of two blades of the flange. No inconvenience was sustained by the accident other than being compelled to run at half speed. As the day wore on the violence of the gale decreased, but the sea was still running very high, when, about 7 o'clock in the evening, the Adriatic being then in latitude 49 degrees 25 minutes north, and longitude 38 degrees 15 minutes west, a full-rigged ship was descried by the lookout, showing a large white light. The ship was directly in the course of the steamer, and was soon discovered to be in a dismantled condition. Captain Perry approached near enough to speak the stranger, but no inquiries addressed through his speaking-trumpet could elicit nothing but the despairing cry, "For God's sake, take us off." Without further loss of time, the commander of the Adriatic lowered a boat, into which stepped a picked crew of six men. The second officer was placed in command, as the gallant little crew put off from the side of the Adriatic, amid cheers given by their comrades on deck was half suppressed by the fear present to all that the frail craft would be swallowed up in the fierce boiling waves. Anxious eyes strained through the darkness striving to trace the course of the relief-boat. For an instant only it remained in sight, and then came for those on board the Adriatic a period of terrible suspense. Propelled by the vigorous strokes of a lusty crew, the life-boat bounded over the mountainous waves, and was soon within speaking distance of the distressed ship. But to approach nearer was impossible. The sea was running mountains high, and the Allan—for such the Adriatic's boat was ascertained to be—could not be approached without being able to take off the crew of the Allan. To add to the difficulty of the undertaking rain commenced to descend in blinding torrents and seemed to have the effect of increasing rather than diminishing the fury of the waves. After about an hour had elapsed, and a consultation had been held, Captain Perry sent off another boat, with a crew of six, commanded by the fourth officer, to the aid of the Allan. This time the expedition was more successful. The boat, because of the danger of being swamped, could not approach sufficiently near to permit of the crew of the Allan stepping on board. An expedient was, however, adopted which proved eminently successful, and resulted in the ultimate rescue of the crew. The Adriatic's boat approached the side of the ship as near as it was possible to go. The crew of the Allan got out their only remaining boat, on the weather side, and, fastening it to a slack-rope, managed by this means to ferry themselves, one by one, to the boat sent by the Adriatic. In this way nine of the crew were taken safely off and placed on board the steamship. The weather being somewhat moderated, the remaining men—there being twenty in all composing the crew of the Allan—were enabled to get off, with the ship's boat, and some in the Adriatic's. The Allan, at the time she was thus deserted, had seven feet of water in her hold, and was in a leaking condition. With the exception of being somewhat overworked, by reason of having to keep the pumps going constantly, the crew had suffered comparatively little. Provisions were plenty at the time the ship was deserted, but the men lost all their effects, having nothing when they boarded the Adriatic but the clothes then upon their persons.

The Allan was a full-rigged ship of about 900 tons burden, and was owned in Glasgow by the firm of Rankin & Gilmore. She was a vessel of twenty years old, and in a very unseaworthy condition. On the 17th November last, the Allan left the port of Bathurst, in the St. Lawrence Gulf, bound for Liverpool, with a cargo of deals. At the time she left port, her condition was such that it was found necessary to pump her out every four hours. When the *Times* reporter, to whom the facts were related by Mr. William Doig, the second mate of the Allan, in presence of Mr. T. W. Williams, the chief officer of the Adriatic, remarked on the danger of going to sea in such a vessel, both gentleman smiled, and Mr. Williams said that it was nothing unusual, as he knew of that class of ships going to sea, when, while in port, it was found necessary to keep the pumps going six hours a day. After the Allan had left Bathurst she experienced fair winds until about the eighth day out, when, in latitude 51° north, and 45° west, a heavy easterly gale was encountered. In the gale the Allan lost her rudder. Every effort was made to repair the disaster, but without avail. No steering apparatus could be contrived, and the ship from that day until the 12th inst., when the crew was taken off by the Adriatic, drifted about at the mercy of the waves. An endeavor was made by keeping set a reefed top-sail to steady the ship and prevent her from broaching to, but breaking her to pieces. This expedient, however, was of little avail, as the Allan continued to encounter very stormy weather. In a few days after the loss of the rudder, the bulwarks, galleys, and deck cargo were swept away by the violence of the waves. In order to lighten the ship, Captain Locke ordered the anchors and chains to be thrown overboard. Fortunately there was a plentiful supply of provisions, but when the galleys were carried away these were cooked with difficulty. The men had to work at the pumps constantly, and each day the condition of the ship was becoming worse. Not once during all these days of tossing helplessly about did the crew of the Allan sight a sailing ship. Four times a hope was held out to them by the appearance on the horizon of steamships, but on each occasion they were made to feel a pang of disappointment that must have been nearly akin to despair. Captain Locke stated to the commander of the Adriatic that he felt certain that some, at least, of these steamers had seen his signal of distress, but had passed on, refusing to make a sign of recognition. A few days more, and the ill-fated Allan must have gone to the bottom with all on board. By regular watches the men worked at the pumps in the first days of the disaster, but toward the end, all hands were obliged to work on deck at once, in order to keep the ship from sinking. It is complained by the officers of the Adriatic that the crew of the Allan, after being allowed a day or two for rest, refused, with some few exceptions, to do any work. The men "broke off," as an excuse, that being provided with no change of clothing, it was impossible to do work which almost necessarily involved getting wet every day. Whatever the merits of the case may be it is certain that the saloon passengers hold the same opinion as the officers of the Adriatic with regard to the crew of the Allan. It was intended by the passengers to make up a subscription for the men, but that intention was abandoned for the reasons stated above. A purse, but of how much could not be ascertained, was made up and presented by the cabin passengers of the Adriatic to Captain Locke.


### A Profitable Investment.

The Wilson Underfeed Sewing Machine combines in a perfect degree the requirements of a first-class machine. This is the unanimous verdict of the thousands of families who are using them, and its success is unprecedented in the history of sewing machines. Although it costs fully as much to make as any other, the manufacturer sells direct to the people, but as the Company belongs to no "Ring" or combination to keep up prices, they can afford to sell at a much less price. Salesroom at No. 318 West Madison street, Chicago, and in all other cities in the United States. The Company wants agents in country towns.

### A New Feature

on the South Side is the opening of the "Dearborn Cake Bakery and Coffee Parlor," where ladies and gentlemen will find a comfortable resort, a fine assortment of the most delicious cakes, pastry, and confectionery, and the very best of coffee, tea, and chocolate. No. 124 Dearborn, near Madison street.


## RUINS OF ANCIENT TROY.

### A Savan at work—A Hundred Men Unearth the Home of Priam—Andromache's Tower Discovered—Also the Walls Thrown Up by Neptune and Apollo—Homer's Iliad.

Excavations are now in progress on the site of ancient Troy, in Asia Minor, which cannot but deeply interest, not archæologists merely, but every one who has read the tale of

Achilles' wrath, to Greece the direful spring
Of woes unnumbered.

From Homer in times the Plains of Troy, traverse by the little streams, Scamander and Simois, and lying between the Ægean Sea and Mount Ida, have been identified with the scenes described in the Iliad; but so widely have travellers and archæologists differed with regard to the site of the famous city which for ten years defied the united arms of Greece, that it has long been doubted whether any genuine remains of Troy could be found within the Troad, and, in fact, whether such a city ever existed save in the fertile imagination of the author of the Homeric Epic.

These doubts are in a fair way of being removed by the discoveries of Dr. Henry Schliemann, who for more than a year has been conducting a series of explorations on the Plains of Troy, of which he has furnished an elaborate account to the *Herald*. He had previously broken ground in this neighborhood, chiefly to satisfy himself that Burnabashi, which it had become the fashion to describe as the site of Troy, could lay no claim to that honor. He found that no considerable city could have been built there, both on account of the limited area of the site and of the absence of remains of pottery at a greater depth than three or four feet below the surface. Excavations at other points suggested by Strabo and other ancient historians and geographers were equally fruitless of valuable results. Having settled this point, he turned his attention to a plateau several miles north of Burnabashi, rising about a hundred feet above the plain and terminating abruptly on its northern and northwestern sides, which seemed admirably adapted for the site of a large city, such as Troy is described to have been. A slight excavation made in 1870 showed that the place was rich in remains of buried architecture and pottery. He at once made up his mind that he had discovered the site of Troy, and prepared to conduct his labors on an extensive scale and with method.

The first difficulty to overcome was to obtain permission to dig into and through the plateau, which was owned partly by a Mr. Frank Calvert and partly by two Turks. The former cheerfully consented to have his premises excavated, but the latter, not sharing Dr. Schliemann's archæological enthusiasm, would neither sell their land nor permit it to be excavated, except on the condition that they should receive a large sum of money, and that the trenches should be filled up on the completion of the digging. Here the patriarchal Ottoman government stepped in, compelled the Turks to sell the land at its estimated value to the Ministry of Public Instruction, and then obligingly turned it over to Dr. Schliemann. With eighty men he broke ground in October, 1871, and excavated until compelled, at the end of November, by the winter rains, to desist. He resumed work with a much larger force of men last April, and has steadily prosecuted it until within the last few weeks. Next year he hopes to continue the interesting task he has undertaken.

The cutting made in 1871 revealed to him ruins of different ages in strata of comparative regularity. Those of historic times were nowhere more than ten feet below the surface. At a depth of fifteen feet only calcined ruins were found, showing that for ages preceding historic times none but wooden houses had existed there. At a depth of from fourteen to twenty-four feet many stone implements and fragments of pottery were found, but no metal, and the houses were of small size, the stones united with earth, an indication that the inhabitants were Aryans. Ten feet lower he came upon houses of unburnt brick, and implements and weapons of copper, and below this stratum were unearthed huge blocks of stone, which led the explorer to believe he had reached the veritable ruins of Troy. Its city wall in spring he opened a trench in the abrupt north side, which he believed must have formed the site of the acropolis, and this was followed by other cuttings in the vicinity, which have occupied the whole of the past season. Working his way with difficulty through immense masses of rubbish, he managed by this means to expose a colossal structure of solid masonry forty feet in thickness and twenty in height, built upon the primitive rock, which he conjectures may have been a tower of the wall of Troy, and possibly that from which Andromache witnessed the death of Hector. It is composed of stones joined with clay, and is faced with a smooth wall of large stones joined with clay, seven feet in thickness by ten in height, which may have been the wall of circumvallation mentioned in the Iliad as having been built around the city by Neptune and Apollo.

These structures, together with the supposed site of a temple, constitute the principal archæological discoveries of Dr. Schliemann, and of their absorbing interest and value there can be no question. But in connection with the remains of Troy he has also unearthed many implements and utensils, mostly in a mutilated condition, which illustrate the habits and religion of the ancient people who owned the sway of Priam. These comprise pottery of many varieties and of great beauty, stone instruments, copper nails, lamps, urns, &c., which, in material, workmanship, shape and ornamentation indicate a people far more civilized than the races who successively built over the site of Troy. Much of the pottery is embellished with the crotcheted cross, a well-known symbol of the Aryan race. At a depth of fifty-three feet large vases were found, which must unquestionably have lived there some 3,000 years. "It is with a strange sensation," writes Dr. Schliemann, "that one looks upon creatures that were the contemporaries of Hector and Andromache, though they be only toads."

The excavations have hitherto been conducted by Mr. Schliemann at his own expense, and he intimates his willingness to resign the further prosecution of the work into the hands of competent and intelligent persons. From the clue already furnished by him the completion of the excavations can only be a question of time and money, and it is to be hoped that the want of these may not delay or indefinitely postpone discoveries in which all civilized persons are interested. A few years' intelligent labor would doubtless lay bare the foundations of the most famous city of epic song.

## MAN AND WIFE.

### Perils of Unwary Bachelors in Scotland—A Curious Scotch Marriage.

*London (Dec. 14) Correspondence of the New York World.*

In the year 1855 there resided in Edinburgh Mr. George Wilson, a maker of fishing-tackles. His business was extensive and lucrative, and he was the happy father of eleven children, three of whom were girls. These young ladies were possessed of exceptional personal beauty, and the eldest of them (Margaret) was the most winsome of the trio. At this time the Ninety-third Regiment of Her Majesty's army was stationed at the castle of Edinburgh, and among its officers was a Major Stewart, the son of Sir William Drummond Stewart, a wealthy Baronet of Scotland. One day this Major Stewart entered the shop of Mr. Wilson, and there for the first time saw Miss Margaret. He at once was attracted by her beauty, and found excuses for repeating his visits to the shop in which, at the time, Miss Margaret was assisting her father in the sale of his manufactures. He began to pay her special attention, and contracted an intimacy with her father and mother. He invited the latter to go for drives with him and "to bring Margaret with them," and after this had been done for a few times, Miss Margaret was permitted to go alone with the Major. He made her presents of Stewart tartan, dresses, and brooches, and other jewelry. At the end of a few months the Major one day entered the shop, and told Mr. Wilson that he had had a row with the hotel people with whom he had been staying, and asked Mr. Wilson to allow him to lodge in his own house. An arrangement of the kind was effected, and the Major took up his quarters with the Wilsons. The courtship now moved on at an accelerated pace; the Major taught Miss Margaret music and French, and it was understood by all the family that they were to be married. On the anniversary of the Major's birthday, 11th of February, 1866, he gave a supper at the house of Mr. Wilson, and after the supper that gentleman, who for some time past had manifested some anxiety in regard to the rather protracted intimacy between the Major and his daughter, spoke with the former upon the subject, and represented to him the necessity of coming to some decision. The latter "sat quietly under this appeal, but tears came into his eyes," and he said: "Wilson, I will show you what I can do to shut people's mouths. I am poor now and can't marry to the height of my proper station, but I will marry Maggie in Scotch fashion." The Major then went down on one knee, drew a wedding-ring from his pocket, and placed it on Miss Margaret's finger, saying, "Maggie, you are my wife before heaven, so help me God." Miss Maggie put her arms round his neck, the two kissed each other, and the marriage, in the eyes of all the witnesses present, among whom were not only the whole Wilson family, but a number of their friends, was regarded as having taken place with all proper form and ceremony, under the peculiar provisions of the Scotch law, which, as is well known, does not require the assistance of a clergyman or magistrate to make a marriage perfect. The health of the newly married couple was drank by all present, and, in due course of time, the bride and bridegroom retired to their nuptial chamber. From that time forward the Major and Maggie lived together at the house of the bride's father as man and wife for some months; the Major was up to his eyes in debt, and his creditors occasionally sought to arrest him, but the claims on such occasions were satisfied by Mr. Wilson. A son was born to the Major on the 24 of April, 1867, and there was the usual talk of its "being very like its father." The Major was very fond of his child—he bought lots of toys for it, and brought people in dozens to see what he called his young heir. In 1869, the Major and Maggie went to Paris, and soon after their return to Scotland the Major died. Mrs. Stewart did not long remain a widow, and her second husband is a Lieutenant Robinson. The father of her first husband also soon afterwards died, and his death was followed by that of the son of the widow of Major Stewart. Shortly before the child's death, the widow, in conjunction with her second husband, instituted a suit against the second son of the then deceased Baronet, asking that her marriage with the deceased Major Stewart might be declared lawful, and that her son should be installed as heir of entail to the estates of the family. After the death of the boy this action was continued for the purpose of securing the widow's share of the property, and the other day it came up for trial in the Lord Ordinary's Court at Edinburgh.

The facts which I have above recounted were stated in evidence by the brother of the plaintiff and by a great number of other witnesses. It was also shown by something like a score of witnesses that the Major in a number of instances, had spoken of Miss Wilson as his wife, and had introduced her to his friends in that character. He was a jolly, reckless, dissipated person; his death was caused by a violent attack of delirium tremens, and the case, up to the time that the evidence for the defendant was commenced, seemed to be conclusive of the genuineness of the plaintiff's claim. The contention on the part of the defendant was, however, that no such marriage as that described by the plaintiff's witnesses had ever taken place; that the witnesses who had testified to it had wilfully perjured themselves, and that Miss Wilson had never been recognized by Major Stewart in any other character than that of his kept mistress.

Father Rigg, of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Edinburgh, stated in evidence that he knew Major Stewart during his life intimately, and that he had spoken to the priest of his intercourse with Maggie Wilson. "He never told me," said he, "that he was married to the girl, and I told him that marriage would be proved against him by his intercourse with her; he replied that he was on his guard, and that the Wilson family had made many attempts to get something in writing from him, but he had never given them anything; he used the words, they tried to entrap me into marriage; he never spoke to me of the girl Wilson in a respectful manner; he said on one occasion that she was a low pig and swore like a trooper; the Major said that the girl had had a child, which he believed was his; he asked me to baptize the child, which I did for the child's sake; I entered the child in my book as illegitimate; I believe that if Major Stewart had been married to Miss Wilson he would have told me so." Other witnesses said that they had often met the Major and Miss Wilson together, and had been introduced by the latter to the former, not as his wife, but as Miss Wilson. Frequently the whole of the members of the Wilson family were present upon these occasions, and the conduct of the family does not seem to have been wholly reputable. On one of